

THE FREEMASON.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND
SIR MICHAEL ROBERT SHAW-STEWART, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER MASON OF SCOTLAND; THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSSLYN,
THE M.W. PAST GRAND MASTER MASON OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE following has been going the rounds of the press: "The celebrated WILLIAM MORGAN, of Masonic fame, who, a great many years ago, became, it is said, a victim to the horrors of Masonic fury, has a second cousin now residing in Clyde, N.Y., and from him it is learned that MORGAN was not murdered (as believed by many), but that to this cousin's personal knowledge he left the country of his own free will, going directly to Australia, and receiving therefor his passage money and 200 dollars. MORGAN published a newspaper in Australia until his death. His son is now there, and in the same business. The anti-secret society people propose to erect a monument to his memory. If this is done we shall then be told all about it, and where MORGAN lived, first and last, and any other particulars." We have found the above extract in a contemporary of identical name, termed "The Freemason of Toronto, Canada," and commend it to the attention of our readers. No greater fraud, no more "bogus" alarm was ever imposed on a too credulous public, than the alleged death of MORGAN, &c., by the anti-Masonic party in the United States. That Freemasonry has recovered the anti-Masonic scare, though not an unnatural or unreasonable fact in itself, is a favourable commentary on the good sense of Americans, and the high character and commendable qualities of the Masonic body generally.

WE hear a good deal of "public installations" in America; what they are we do not profess to understand, to be able even to conceive. They seem to allude to the "W.M.'s" installation, but that latter fact we hold to be utterly impossible, for such a state of things and feeling is opposed, not only to every Masonic precedent and theory, but is entirely subversive of the intention and object of the ceremony itself. Can any American brother explain in what these so-called "public installations" really consist?

ACCORDING to Bro. HUBERT, in the "Chaine d'Union," a new book has appeared, as an attack on Freemasonry, entitled, "Juifs et Franc-maçons ou le Sixieme Age de l'Eglise," "Jews and Freemasons, or the Sixth Age of the Church." The "Ordre de Caen," a journal, Bro. HUBERT declares, already known to his readers, states that this essay forms part of a great work on the "Apocalypse," by an author under the pseudonym "M. DE ST ANDRE," but he is a priest, and which the writer publishes, he says, on account of the actual facts it contains. If our readers wish to judge properly of its essential analysis, sense (?), truthfulness (?), &c., we recommend them to read the short account of it elsewhere.

ACCORDING, also, to Bro. HUBERT, "Le Causeur Normand," an Ultramontane sheet, absurdly and untruthfully identifies the "Nihilists with Freemasons." "Five times already the Freemasons, known in Russia under the name of Nihilists, had assailed his life, (the EMPEROR ALEXANDER'S). 2. They had vowed his destruction, chiefly and solely because he was the Emperor. Nevertheless, none of his ancestors had ever reigned with so much of 'liberalism,' and he had himself enfranchised all the Serfs. The Freemasons in France had not even the modesty to conceal their joy on hearing this sad news. Our friends, the Russian revolutionists, they said in their journals, are to-day paid for all their sufferings and recompensed for all their invincible perseverance." Though we do not always agree with all that Freemasons sometimes do and say, we utterly disbelieve in the fact that any of them are capable of such ignoble sentiments, and shall be happy to reproduce in our English Masonic journal any repudiation of such calumnies by French Freemasons. We may add that the Nihilists are not Freemasons, nor the Freemasons Nihilists, and we believe that the recent horrible and fearful act of wickedness at St. Petersburg is indignantly repudiated in the name of our common loyalty, patriotism, honour, and humanity, by the entire body of our Cosmopolitan Craft. Our sentiments have been too clearly expressed more than once to leave any doubt as to our own opinions on this recent dastardly and fearful crime, what is the true, and honest, and indignant feeling of English Freemasons, on an occurrence which is a lasting reproach to the age in which we live.

WE are informed, which we much regret, that our remarks on the approaching Girls' Festival are liable to misconstruction. We wrote, we admit at once, on no official authority, and were rather influenced, perhaps, by friendly Governors than by any positive information. We have been for some time aware that a foolish "canard" had been going about, doing injury to the festival, by whomsoever circulated and invented we know not, or with what intent, malice propense, or childish ignorance we are equally unaware. The "canard" was to the effect that the returns were already so large as to render exertion needless. This statement, as we before pointed out, is distinctly unfounded, and we sincerely regret if our language was calculated in any respect to seem to confirm so great a delusion. We have reason to believe, on the contrary, that if the festival be a success it can only be achieved by unceasing hard work of Stewards and friends of the Girls' School in the "interim," and we urge upon all alike who feel an interest in that most admirable Institution to slack no energies, nay, even to increase their salutary and praiseworthy endeavours, in order to make the festival of the Girls' School for 1881 a triumphant one, alike for the Stewards, the subscribers, and its hardworking and zealous Secretary, Bro. R. F. W. HEDGES.

WE publish a paragraph elsewhere from the *Latomia* relating to another "congress" or "conference" of Masons this year at Leipsic. We shall recur to the subject fully in our next, but for various reasons see no possible good in it, or likely to arise from it.

WE refer our readers to a communication elsewhere relative to the new movement in France, in respect of Craft and High Grade Masonry. So far as we understand its professed objects we approve of it. But we are not insensible of the difficulties attendant on it. A point in its favour is that Bro. HUBERT seems heartily to endorse it.

WE are informed that a movement has begun in France to combine all Freemasons under two heads, *i.e.*, 1, an obedience which shall have jurisdiction over all the High Grades from the Fourth to the Thirty-third Degrees, and all professing quasi-Masonic rites; and 2, an obedience which shall have jurisdiction (absolute and exclusive) over the three First Degrees as a Craft Body or Blue Masonry. At present the situation in France is as follows:

1. The Grand Orient and Supreme Council of France and French possessions governs the three First Degrees and four High Grades, including Rose Croix, making up the Modern French Rite of Seven Degrees.
 2. A Supreme Council for France and its dependencies ruling Craft Bodies and High Grades. In France Blue Masonry is practised under the A. and A. Rite.
 3. A "Supreme Puissance" for France of the Oriental Masonic Order of Mizraim.
 4. The so-called G. Loge Ecossoise Symbolique.
- "En principe," as the French say, the idea is a good one, but how far the practical difficulties in the way can be overcome remains yet to be seen. Time can only show how far such an arrangement is feasible in France. From an English point of view it has much to recommend it, but we cannot shut our eyes to the realities that in France the contests of the opposing Bodies have been more bitter and prevailing than in England, and it is just possible that at present, at any rate, personal prepossessions and sectional differences are too many and too powerful to be overcome. We think it well, however, to make a note of the fact, and shall be happy to "report progress" of anything which shall come of a "movement" which seems both rational and seasonable.

THE Annual Festival took place on Wednesday last, but we regretted to observe the very scanty attendance of the noble and distinguished brethren of our Order, which was not a little commented upon by the brethren present. Where, we must venture to ask, were all the Provincial Grand Masters? Surely the Annual Festival of our Order deserves the sympathy and presence of those high in authority and position amongst us. We beg respectfully to add that it is very hard on those humbler brethren of ours who do attend, often at considerable personal inconvenience, to note the absence of those whose kindly assistance add lustre to all our Masonic assemblies.

IN our issue next week we shall give an account of the Masonic services of our new Grand Officers, as we have done on previous occasions.

OUR readers will see a special notice elsewhere relative to the removal of the publishing office of the *Freemason*, from 198, Fleet-street, to 16, Great Queen-street. All communications should therefore be henceforth forwarded to the latter address.

WE call particular attention to the letter of the Secretary of the Girls' School.

GRAND FESTIVAL.

The annual Grand Festival of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday at the Freemasons' Tavern. Previous to the holding of the festival, Grand Lodge was held in the Temple, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. General J. S. Brownrigg, Prov. G.M. for Surrey, presided, having Bro. Major Tudor, the new Prov. G.M. for Staffordshire, as Dep. Grand Master, and Bro. S. Rawson, Past District Grand Master for China, as Past Grand Master. There were about 300 brethren present.

The following is a list of the Grand Officers who were present: Bros. J. S. Brownrigg, acting G.M.; Earl of March, S.G.W.; Col. Creton, Grand Treas.; Æ. J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.; Ernest E. Wendt, G.S. for German Correspondence; Major Clerk, S.G.D.; Frank Richardson, S.G.D.; H. S. Somerville Burney, J.G.D.; John H. Scott, J.G.D.; R. F. Gould, S.G.D.; John Sampson Peirce, J.G.D.; H. C. Levander, J.G.D.; Sir Albert W. Woods, G.D.C.; Magnus Ohren, A.G.D.C.; Charles Greenwood, G.S.B.; George Lambert, G.S.B.; C. S. Jekyll, G. Org.; James Kench, G.P.; William Clarke, G.P.; William Robert Wood, A.G.P.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; C. Edwin Willing, P.G. Organist; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M.; W. Kuhe, P. Grand Organist; Rev. W. A. Hill, P.G. Chap; Rev. John Edmund Cox, P.G. Chap.; F. B. Alston, P.G.W.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.D.; Rev. R. P. Bent, P.G.C.; Peter de L. Long, P.G.D.; W. Ough, P.G.P.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Matthew Clark, P.G.D.; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; F. P. Morrell, P.G.D.; Rev. John Sedgwick, P.G.C.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Major G. S. Tudor, P.G.M. Staffordshire; A. J. Duff Filer, P.G.S.B.; Raphael Costa, P.G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; Capt. Wm. Platt, P.G.W.; Rev. H. A. Pickard, Prov. G.C.; J. F. Collinson, P.G.S.B.; S. Mullens, P.G.S.B.; Sir Michael Costa, P.G.W.; S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; W. T. Howe, P.G.P.; John A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, P.G.C.; Charles W. C. Hutton, P.G.D.; Rev. R. P. Bent, P.G.C.; James Lewis Thomas, P.G.S.B.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; Charles A. Murton, P.G.D.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Robert Grey, P.G.D.; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the Grand Lodge had been formally opened, the minutes of the last Grand Lodge, so far as they referred to the election of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer, were read, and the Prince of Wales, who was elected Grand Master at the last Grand Lodge, was declared installed again as Grand Master of English Freemasons, and Sir ALBERT WOODS proclaimed him as Grand Master for the ensuing year. The Earl of Carnarvon was appointed Pro Grand Master, and the Earl of Lathom Deputy Grand Master. The other officers appointed were—

Bro. The Earl of March, M.P.	-	-	G.S.W.
Justice Cave	-	-	G.J.W.
Rev. A. P. Purey Cust, Dean of York	-	-	G. Chaplain.
Rev. Ambrose W. Hall	-	-	G. Chaplain.
Lieut.-Col. Creton	-	-	G. Treasurer.
Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., M.P.	-	-	G. Registrar.
Col. Shadwell H. Clerke	-	-	G. Secretary.
E. E. Wendt	-	-	G. Sec. Ger. Cor.
Sir James Ramsden	-	-	G.S.D.
Major-General H. Clerk, R.A., F.R.S.	-	-	G.S.D.
J. Sampson Peirce	-	-	G.J.D.
H. C. Levander, M.A., F.R.S.	-	-	G.J.D.
J. Gibson	-	-	G. Supt. of W.
Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), P.G.W.	-	-	G. Dir. of Cer.
Capt. A. B. Cooke	-	-	G.A. Dir. of Cer.
George Lambert	-	-	G. Swd. Br.
C. S. Jekyll	-	-	G. Organist.
H. G. Buss	-	-	G.A. Secretary.
W. Clarke	-	-	G. Pursuivant.
W. R. Wood	-	-	G.A. Pursuivant.
H. Sadler	-	-	G. Tyler.

Bro. General BROWNRIFF announced that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had been pleased to order that all Grand Pursuivants shall henceforth, by virtue of their office, be entitled to past rank in the same way as other officers of Grand Lodge.

The following list of brethren proposed for next year's Grand Stewards was read by Col. SHADWELL CLERKE:—

Bros. T. A. Jones, 259; W. W. Venn, 99; Henry Lando, 4; R. M. Bishop, 1; S. R. Turner, 2; J. H. Hay, 5; L. W. Desange, 6; A. Tisley, 8; Eugene Montellis, 14; C. Mashfield, 21; A. S. Wildey, 23; G. H. Brodie, 26; W. Roebuck, 29; F. Schofield, 46; W. J. Crump, 58; J. Hellerly, 60; W. G. Logan, 91; and E. Letchworth, 197. General Brownrigg announced that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had approved of these brethren as Grand Stewards.

Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern, where an elegant banquet was provided by the Grand Stewards. General Brownrigg presided, and the following brethren among others were present: Bros. Sir E. A. Lechmere, Bart., Pro. G.M. Worcestershire; Earl of March, S.G.W.; Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Bart., P.G.C.; G. W. Linenger, Past G.M. Nebraska; Brackstone Baker, Ernest E. Wendt, D.C.L., G. Secretary for German Correspondence; Lieut.-Col. J. Creton, Æneas McIntyre, G. Reg.; Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary; Major George S. Tudor, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M. Bengal; Samuel Rawson, P.D. G.M. China; Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, G. Chap.; Rev. Jno. Sedgwick, D.D., P.G.C.; Rev. R. Simpson, P.G.C.; Charles A. Murton, Rev. P.

Morrell, John Sampson Peirce, J.G.D.; Thomas Fenn, H. C. Levander, M.A., F.R.A.S., P.G.D.; C. W. C. Hutton, Robert Grey, Raynham W. Stewart; Rev. W. A. Hill, P.G.C.; H. A. Pickard, P.G.C.; Rev. Chas. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; John M. Case; Major-General H. Clerk, R.A., F.R.S., S.G.D.; Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter, P.G.W., G.D.C.; Robert Freke Gould; Rev. Robert P. Burt, P.G.C.; Rev. C. W. Arnold, P.G.C.; H. J. P. Dumas, Joseph Parkinson, John A. Rucker, Peter de Lande Long, Capt. N. G. Philips, James Mason, P.G.S.B.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; Alex. J. Duff-Filer, P.G.S.B.; Charles Greenwood, P.G.S.B.; G. Lambert, G.S.B.; J. T. Collings, P.G.S.B.; S. Mullens, P.G.S.B.; C. S. Jekyll, G.O.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.A.D.C.; Captain Arthur Bott Cook, Assistant G.D.C.; J. L. Thomas, Lieut.-Col. H. S. S. Burney, Frank Richardson, John H. Scott, Wm. Robt. Wood, Assistant Purs.; W. T. Howe, P.G.P.; Henry G. Buss, Asst. G. Secretary; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; and Lewis Etheridge, P.M. Sydney Lodge, 829, P.G.O. Kent.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen,"

The CHAIRMAN said: Brethren, let me ask you to charge your glasses—bumpers for the toast I am about to propose to you. It is a toast which requires no recommendation from any one holding the gavel in any assembly of Freemasons. It is now forty-three years since that gracious lady who now rules over us ascended the throne of these realms. Some in this meeting may be old enough to remember her ascension, but those who are not can appreciate how thoroughly during her reign Her Majesty has endeared herself to all her subjects. (Cheers.) But it is not only as loyal Englishmen that we here regard her Majesty. We of the Craft can never forget that she is the daughter of a Freemason, and the mother of the most distinguished Freemason, the Master of our lodge. (Loud cheers.) I will say no more than to ask you, with all the loyalty which characterises our Order, to drink "The Health of the Queen"—God bless her. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then said: The next toast on my list is that of "Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family." It so happens by an accident that it has been my privilege to be a great deal in Denmark, and I have had the honour of remembering, and I may humbly say of knowing, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales ever since her early childhood. I can well remember the deep grief which overspread that land when she was taken from it and transferred to England; but I venture to say that she received a welcome from Englishmen which she has thoroughly appreciated. She has thoroughly identified herself with Englishmen, and she is very intimately connected with Masonry. I do not know that I have ever been in any foreign country where the solemnities of Masonry were carried out more accurately and successfully than in Denmark. We must remember it was in a Scandinavian country that our Grand Master got his first degree in Masonry, and therefore Her Royal Highness has a very friendly regard for everything connected with Masonry. I believe that she was very much touched by that message sent to her by Grand Lodge on her birthday. I hope I may say without presumption that those two illustrious young blue jackets who are serving their country may, when they become of mature age, be enrolled in the Craft. (Cheers.) Brethren, I call upon you to drink "The Health of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family."

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure that there lingers in the memory of many present the recollection of that impressive ceremony which took place some years ago when our present Grand Master was installed in Albert Hall. All large assemblies of people have a certain significance and character about them, but I do not think I ever saw a more picturesque sight than was presented on that occasion. (Cheers.) In the course of my profession I have seen large numbers of armed men gathered together, making a very imposing display, but there was a detail, a colouring about the assemblage at the Albert Hall, which made it unique. The very collars worn by the brethren set off the sober hue of every day attire very effectively. There was only one element absent which I am glad to see is supplied here to-night—the ladies, who are lending that charm and effect to our proceedings which the sex always supplies. (Hear, hear.) Still I think those who were witnesses of that scene in the Albert Hall must have been convinced how wise we were in selecting the Prince of Wales as our Grand Master. (Loud cheers.) Looking to the numberless duties His Royal Highness has to perform, we can easily understand that it is impossible for him to give that attention to Freemasonry which he desires; but we know that he does not discharge his Masonic duties vicariously. (Cheers.) So far as he can he attends personally to all matters belonging to his office, and our interests are never lost sight of by him. (Cheers.) I am sure you will all join with me in drinking "Long Life and Prosperity to our Grand Master." (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: The next toast that is put in my hand is that of "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, and Foreign Lodges;" the latter to include the United States of America. I consider that they are hardly foreign lodges. However, we have a representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, who also acknowledges himself a member of an English lodge, and we have a representative of the Grand Lodge of the United States, and I am sure those who have the advantage of an acquaintance with the brethren of the United States will acknowledge the hearty welcome that Masons from England receive from the brethren in America.

In responding for the toast, Bro. MAXWELL CLOSE said: I beg to thank you, in the first instance, for the honour you have conferred upon the Grand Lodge of Ireland in drinking their health. I can assure you, brethren, that I deem it a high honour to be called upon to respond for the toast. Having the honour to represent the Grand Lodge of England in the Grand Lodge of Ireland, I know how cordial the feelings in that lodge are, and how cordial

and happy are the relations between the lodges of the two countries. Nature may have done much to sever us, but I believe that the Craft in the country has been unflinching in its efforts to unite the two countries in the bonds of fraternal affection. (Cheers.)

Bro. LINENGER, P.G.M. Grand Lodge of Nebraska, as representing the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, said: It affords me much pleasure to make this public declaration of the manner in which I have been entertained in England. As representing one of almost the youngest Grand Lodges of the West, the membership of which numbers about 125, I am glad to say that the Masonic Institution in the Far West Country is in a very prosperous condition indeed, and I desire now to state that while travelling in this country for the last ten months I have been received most heartily by all the brethren, both in Great Britain and Ireland. I beg to thank every member present, and I am sure that if any of you should visit the United States you will receive as hearty a welcome as I have enjoyed in this country. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom," said: I gave you the apologies of these distinguished brethren in Grand Lodge for their non-attendance, and we are all sorry they were not present, and more especially for the cause which keeps them away. I will not say in this assembly what we know of them, because we all know how great is the interest they take in everything that concerns the Craft. I do not suppose if we were to search the United Kingdom from one end to the other we could find two brethren more fitted to fill their respective positions than they are. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then said: I have now to propose "The Health of the R.W. the Grand Wardens, and the other Grand Officers, Present and Past." I know how difficult it is for the Grand Master to make a selection of Grand Officers. I know it myself full well in my much humbler position as a Provincial Grand Master. There is extreme difficulty in selecting suitable brethren for these offices. Therefore, how much greater must the difficulty be for him who is at the head of the Craft. But I think we must acknowledge that the selections he generally makes are certainly those which give satisfaction to the Craft. On this occasion I think he is singularly fortunate. We have in our Senior Grand Warden one who will be a credit to Grand Lodge, and I have no doubt we shall find in all the others brethren of whom we shall all be proud. I will not recapitulate the services of those who are appointed to office; but I am sure you will join with me in drinking to their hearty good health, and with this toast I shall couple the name of the Earl of March, Senior Grand Warden.

The EARL OF MARCH, S.G.W.: R.W. Master and brethren, I have to return thanks on behalf of myself, and other Grand Officers. I am, as you are aware, descended from a race who have been cordial supporters of Freemasonry, and whatever efforts I may be able to make in that direction I trust they will meet with some degree of approbation. I have also to thank you on behalf of other Grand Officers. It struck me at the election of Grand Officers that some like myself were new to the office, and some were re-elected not for the first time; and the applause which greeted the names of the latter gave assurance of the approval with which the brethren entertained their past efforts, and their confidence in their future endeavours. Brethren, on behalf of myself, and all Grand Officers, Past and Present, I thank you for the honour you have done us. (Cheers.)

Bro. H. D. SANDEMAN, Past District G.M. Bengal, in proposing "The Health of the Chairman," said: Brethren, the toast which I have to propose is one for which I have been very safely selected, because it is one of those which require no verbiage, and no eloquence: it is "The Health of our excellent Brother who is this evening acting as the Most Worshipful Grand Master." (Hear, hear, and cheers.) There are many brethren in this hall who like myself (and I am proud of the distinction), have for many years been intimately acquainted with our Right Worshipful Chairman in Freemasonry; but I know that all here present, whether intimately acquainted with him or not, are well acquainted with his name, which is a household word in the Craft; it is a name which belongs to one who has for many years taken great interest and an active part in our ceremonies, taken also a leading part in our charities, and done everything which could make him dear to us. Brethren, I have already had a hint that time is going on and that many brethren want to get away; therefore I cannot treat myself to what I should like to do—some lengthened remarks as to our excellent Chairman, and so I will at once ask you to drink his health, which I know you will do in a bumper, and wish that he may long live to be our friend and associate. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: Brethren, I have to thank you very cordially for the toast and for the patience with which you have listened to what I have had to say. Although I have many personal friends in the room, I attribute your kind attention to that fraternal regard which you all hold to me as a brother and as an old soldier. I return you my thanks from the bottom of my heart. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: The next toast, brethren, is that of "The Provincial Grand Masters." I am sorry to say that here to-night they are in the singular, not in the plural number, the only Provincial Grand Master present but myself being the brother by my side, the Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire. He has been here this evening to support me. I shall ask him to be short in his reply to the toast, but I am sure we are always glad to listen to brethren from the provinces, and we hail his first appearance in the character of Provincial Grand Master with pleasure. (Cheers.) I ask you to drink "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master." (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Major TUDOR, Prov. G.M. for Stafford: Brethren, in replying to this toast I can only say that I am as glad to be among you and to stand up and thank you as you can possibly be to receive me. I have as yet had but little to do with the working of the Provincial Grand Mastership, but for

a good many years I have been acquainted with my own province, and I can only say for it that Provincial Grand Masters always desire to do all they can to further the interests of Freemasonry, and to carry out the principles we all hold dear. As long as I hold the position I do now I hope I shall not bring any discredit on my own Provincial Grand Lodge, or on the Grand Lodge of England.

The CHAIRMAN then said: The next toast I have to propose is that of "The Masonic Charities." There can be no better evidence of the interest taken in them than the increased annual subscriptions which we all of us hear of at the festivals. Year by year they increase, and I hope year by year they will continue to increase. There has been a good deal of correspondence which we have seen on this subject, but after all I think among sensible, straight-thinking men it is always better—though we are open to conviction—to go and see the Institutions for themselves. Very few, I think, can see the correspondence without being sure that to a very great extent there is a good deal to be said about it; but for all that, there is the broad fact that we do support an immense number of orphan children, and decayed Masons and their widows. The very basis of our Institution is charity and brotherly love, and I hope the day will never come when these Masonic Charities will cease to be what they now are. I couple with the toast the name of Bro. Hedges, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

Bro. HEDGES: Most Worshipful Grand Master and brethren: In the name, and on behalf of, the Masonic Charities, I beg to tender you my sincere thanks for the hearty response which you have accorded to this toast. I do not, M.W. Sir, purpose to trespass on your time this evening by discussing the various merits of those Institutions, they are already, I am sure, too well known and appreciated to warrant my so doing, while the liberal support which has been accorded to them during the past year shows beyond doubt the place which they hold in the hearts of all true Masons. The festival of the Benevolent Institution, M.W. Sir, which has recently taken place, has again proved the great generosity of the Craft, and we cannot but express the hope that at the closely-approaching festival of the Girls' School and the not far distant festival of the Boys' School the result may be one of which Freemasonry may be justly proud, and one which shall lay the Charities under another and lasting debt of gratitude. M.W. Sir, for the honour you have conferred upon me in linking my name with this toast I thank you.

There were loud calls for Bros. Binckes and Terry.

Bro. F. BINCKES rose, and said: Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am entirely taken by surprise by the call made upon me to add anything to the remarks that have already been addressed by the brother whose name was formally and officially associated with the toast just so warmly given and so kindly received. I am sure in a festive gathering like this, which has simply for its object convivial enjoyment and geniality to those brethren who are honoured by the appointments to office by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, it is neither expedient, nor just, nor right, that our brethren should be wearied by a reply to the toast of "Success to the Masonic Institutions." We all know, brethren, with a large amount of thankfulness and gratitude, that whenever Masons meet together, and for whatever purpose they may be congregated, they never lose sight of the object of charity, and I will simply indulge in the hope that whenever on these occasions we are gathered together to congratulate the Grand Officers on their advance to their high office, those officers will remember that with the increase of honours there is also an increase of responsibility, and that they will always be setting a good example to those not so highly honoured as themselves, and do all in their power to stimulate the charity of the brethren on behalf of our great Masonic Institutions. (Hear, hear.) For myself, I would simply say, as being an honoured guest of the Board of Grand Stewards, it is not my object to weary this company with any long observations; but that for more than a quarter of a century being an honoured labourer in the cause of Masonic Charity I desire to express my grateful thanks for what has been done in the past, my confidence in the present, and my hope for the future. (Cheers.)

Bro. JAMES TERRY being again called for, said: As the last representative of our Masonic Institutions, permit me, Sir, in a few words to say that as the representative of the Benevolent Institution, whose festival has already taken place with that enormous success which, I am bound to admit in this Grand Lodge, has never taken place in connection with any of our Masonic Institutions, I have to inform you a grand total of £14,380 was brought in. I only hope that Bro. Hedges may have the honour of exceeding that amount, and that Bro. Binckes may be enabled to total more than Bro. Hedges. All I can say is that on behalf of the Benevolent Institution I beg to thank the brethren for the support which my Institution has had, and for the kindness it has always received from Grand Lodge of England and the Board of Grand Stewards. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: I have now, gentlemen, to ask you to drink "The Health of the Stewards," which is the last toast you will have to drink. I have to thank these brethren for the provision they have made for our comfort. In almost all the toasts that I have had to propose I have had to speak of those who were absent. It is more difficult to thank those gentlemen who are present, without causing them to blush, but I do thank them heartily on behalf of the brethren present.

Bro. RUDOLPH G. GLOVER: M.W.G.M. and brethren, I thank you on behalf of myself and brother Stewards, for the honour you have done us in the toast that has been so cordially given and received. Anything which we have done has been a labour of love to us. If this Grand Festival has been a success, any amount of trouble that has been thrown upon us has been amply repaid in the pleasure that success has afforded us. (Hear, hear.)

The brethren then adjourned to the Temple, where a beautiful concert was given under the direction of W. Bro. C. S. Jekyll, Grand Org., assisted

by the following artists: Mrs. Osgood, Madame Mary Cummings, Miss Hopekirk (solo pianist), Bros. Henry Guy, T. Baxter, C. Beckett, G. T. Carter, Winn, and Lawler. Accompanists: Bros. G. R. Egerton and C. S. Jekyll, G.O.

The following is a list of the Board of Grand Stewards, 1881, to whom the greatest credit is due for the excellence of the arrangements: Bros. Rudolph G. Glover, 259, President; Charles C. Cheston, 99, Treasurer; Robert Gresley Hall, 4, Secretary; Bradshaw Brown, 1; E. A. Pontifex, 2; F. W. Braine, 5; W. A. Pope, 6; J. Fenn, 8; P. C. F. Tatham, 14; G. Watson, 21; J. Palmer, 23; H. P. Felgate, 26; A. D. Everingham, 29; J. R. Cassell, 46; O. H. Colven, 58; R. G. Barton, 60; H. J. Chapman, 91; and W. H. Grimston, 197.

The dinner was admirably supplied by Bro. Best, proprietor of Freemasons' Tavern, and was well supervised by him and Bro. Dawkins, his manager.

Bro. Hayho was toastmaster.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

BY A STEWARD.

What is the reason why our Girls' School has always been such a favourite with the Craft is a question often asked, but never, I believe, answered before. And if I shall attempt to do so in the following remarks, it is because I believe that many brethren up and down the country, and the readers of the friendly *Freemason*, may like to have their interest renewed and their remembrance revived in a School which is an honour to the Craft and a benefit to humanity. I also take up my pen to-day gladly, because, owing to a "portentious combination of circumstances," and a remarkable "concatenation of atoms," a random speech, or an ill-natured sneer, has tended to keep back the ever cheery support of the Craft towards the festival of the Institution now just approaching.

Some one, it matters not whom, has thought well to say that "the Girls' School does not need support," and the consequence is that here and there, up and down our Masonic realms, (see Bro. James Stevens' ingenious map of the same), a few of our worthy brethren are holding back, and the list of Stewards is rendered far from complete.

In order, then, to help forward the movement to render the Girls' School Anniversary a complete success, I have thought it well to point out a few of the claims the Girls' School undoubtedly has on the support and confidence of our great and benevolent Brotherhood.

1. *It is most carefully and judiciously administered.* Those of us who know it well must admit, that while all is liberal and sufficient in its management and arrangements, there is nothing lavish or ostentatious, extravagant, or out of place. Everything, on the contrary, is made to subserve its proper end, all adjuncts are pressed into service, and the whole system, as well as the whole "fittings," are in thorough working and serviceable order—meant for use, not for show, for practicality, not for effect. There is no mere "gilding" or ornamentation about the School, all is solid and substantial, reasonable, utilitarian.

2. *The Institution is governed by a most zealous and harmonious Committee.* The brethren who serve on the House Committee deserve the best thanks of the Craft for the time they give to, and the care they bestow on, the management and development of the School. The visitors to it—and they are many—are, and must be, sensible speedily of the great benefits arising to any such Institution from intelligent and painstaking superintendence. Everything is in most perfect order, all is governed by one uniform and steady system. There is no confusion, no bustle, no fidgettiness, no preparation for visitors, but, whether in its "gala days" or in its "working hours," our Girls' School is really a "model" for all similar institutions in this and other countries. I may add that our American brethren, who have seen the Girls' School, are loud always in its praise.

3. *The Institution is, educationally, a great success.* In a contrasted body like that of Freemasons any common system of education is a matter of much delicacy and difficulty. It is a very simple affair, either in a school where all are on a level socially or in a purely eleemosynary school, where a common "minimum" is the educational status, to adopt and adapt a system of education as an equivalent for all the pupils. But it is not at all easy where the children come from different "strata" of society, and where, humanly speaking, the standard of education for one class is not necessarily the standard of education for another class. But the Girls' School system has been marked by complete success, in that by making "house work" the foundation of the whole system, it has sought to educate the girls under its charge by developing latent talent, and giving a fair chance to all. Education to be education must "educate" and draw out the God-given powers of intellect; and this is what the Girls' School unfailingly does. Those who have attended the examinations will have been struck with the intelligence and animation of the girls, their freedom from constraint, and yet their entire subordination and good order, and will have felt that to Miss Davis the greatest credit must be accorded, in so ably directing and carrying out so "thorough" a system of education.

4. *The girls in the Institution are in a "Home," not merely a School.* Those who have seen that congregation annually of young, healthy, happy faces, will have felt pleased to think that in the providence of T.G.A.O. T.U. it has been their privilege to aid in sheltering those poor children of destitute, or suffering, or departed brethren, from the rough usage of a cold world, in imparting to them the inestimable blessings of a good education, and in preparing them for the stern battle of life. The gathering for the prizes is, indeed, a sight to bear in mind and appreciate. Those who have once been present will never forget it, and will gladly be present again.

So, wishing all prosperity to the Masonic Girls' School, an establishment unique in its organization and beneficent in its results, we may all well feel it to be a "privilege," as well as a "duty," to cast in our "mite" towards rendering the festival of 1881 a happy proof of Masonic liberality, and a striking manifestation of continued interest and goodwill in a great Institution, which deserves the cheerful and hearty support of every English Freemason.

CONSECRATION OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SUSSEX.

The rapid strides which Freemasonry has made throughout England since the Prince of Wales has been its head and chief must be alike gratifying to His Royal Highness and all who take a real interest in the mystic

art. The appointment of Sir W. W. Burrell, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master of Sussex gave additional impetus to the Craft in Sussex. The hon. baronet's popularity is due to a variety of causes, not the least of these being his genial manner and the great personal interest which he takes in every lodge under his care. Immediately after his appointment he commenced a tour of the province, that he might witness the working of every lodge. The result was most satisfactory in every way. Where praise was justly due it was bestowed ungrudgingly, and where fault was to be found it was done in a manner which clearly showed that the command had been entrusted to firm but gentle hands. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. J. H. Scott, and the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. V. P. Freeman, are also deservedly popular among the brethren in the province. Five new lodges have been consecrated in Sussex since the present Provincial Grand Master of Sussex undertook that office, and the number of members has largely and steadily increased throughout the county.

In connection with the twenty-four Sussex lodges there are nine Royal Arch Chapters, and last year a movement was set on foot for the establishment of a Provincial Grand Chapter. The idea met with unanimous approval, and on the circumstances being represented to the Prince of Wales, he at once issued to Sir Walter Burrell a patent appointing him Grand Superintendent of Sussex. The ceremony of his formal installation as such took place in the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Saturday last. The occasion being one of unusual interest, there was a large attendance of members from the various chapters in the province, as well as many distinguished companions, as visitors, including Comps. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Scribe E. of England, the Installing Officer; Captain N. G. Philips, P.G.S.N.; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G. Prin. Soj.; P. de Lande Long, P.G. Prin. Soj.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Asst. Soj.; Lieut.-Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, G.S.B.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.S.B.; E. Letchworth, P. Prov. G. Reg. Middlesex; H. W. Charrington, P. Prov. G.P.S. Surrey; J. Harrison, P. Prov. P. Soj. Hants; Thomas Francis, P. Prov. G. Asst. Soj. Hants; Lord Arthur Hill, P.Z. 66; and others.

The Hova Ecclesia Chapter kindly lent their new and elegant chapter furniture for the occasion. The musical portions of the ceremony were conducted by Comp. A. King (Brighton). About sixty Present and Past Principals were present at the opening of the Provincial Grand Chapter, and nearly a similar number of companions were admitted afterwards.

The INSTALLING OFFICER having briefly stated the object of their assembling, the roll of the various chapters in Sussex was called, and it was found that each was well represented, a gratifying fact which Col. Shadwell Clerke attributed to the heartiness with which the proposal to form a Grand Chapter for Sussex had been received in the province. But, he said, they had really met to re-establish a Provincial Grand Chapter for Sussex; for the Grand Chapter records referred to the establishment of a Sussex Provincial Chapter at Brighton in 1811 and the appointment of the Rev. J. Austin as its Grand Superintendent. But the documentary evidence in connection therewith was so meagre that it could scarcely be considered to have had any real existence at all. It seemed to have become extinct almost immediately, probably through the death of the reverend companion appointed to preside over it, or from some other unfortuitous circumstance of which they had no record. He felt, however, that its re-establishment was under the most favourable auspices. Sir W. Burrell was a most popular Grand Master and enthusiastic Mason, and he felt, therefore, that the Grand Chapter of Sussex, to be inaugurated that day, was bound to be a success (applause). There was a singular coincidence in connection with the former and the present chapter which he felt he ought to mention. Sir Walter Burrell had nominated as his second officer Comp. John Henderson Scott (applause). His high position in Masonry was well-known and properly appreciated. There was, however, the singular fact that Comp. Scott's grandfather occupied an exactly similar position to him (that of H.) in the Sussex Chapter established in 1811, and Comp. Scott's father also filled the position of Prov. Grand Standard Bearer a similar position to that which their esteemed Comp. Scott now so worthily occupied in the Grand Chapter of England. These circumstances clearly showed that an inherent love of Masonry existed in the line from which Comp. Scott had descended. (Applause.)

The Provincial Grand Superintendent was then announced, and his patent of appointment having been read, the imposing ceremony of installation was proceeded with. The investiture complete, the Provincial Grand Superintendent was proclaimed in due form amid the hearty plaudits of the companions, and the Grand Chapter for Sussex was declared duly constituted.

Sir WALTER BURRELL then nominated and invested the following Ex. Companions as his Provincial Grand Officers:

Ex. Comp. J. H. Scott, P.Z. 38, 271, 732	Prov. G.H.
" G. W. King, P.Z. 271	Prov. G.J.
" V. P. Freeman, P.Z. 311, 315, 732	Prov. G.S.E.
" W. R. Wood, P.Z. 811	Prov. G.S.N.
" T. Trollope, P.Z. 40	Prov. G.P.S.
" C. A. Woolley, P.Z. 311	Prov. 1st. G.A.S.
" Bransby Roberts, P.Z. 916	Prov. 2nd. G.A.S.
" R. Crosskey, P.Z. 311	Prov. G. Treas.
" Gerard Ford, P.Z. 271	Prov. G. Reg.
" John St. Clair, P.Z. 38	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" C. J. Smith, P.Z. 811	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Joseph Dixon, P.Z. 271	Prov. G.D. of C.
" W. Kuhe, P.Z. 271	Prov. G. Org.
" T. Hughes	Prov. G. Janitor.

Comp. V. P. FREEMAN, G.S.E., read a tabular statement showing the relative strength of the several chapters in Sussex, and reported the receipt of the stipulated contribution from every companion. He also reported the receipt of the minute book of the former Provincial Grand Chapter, kindly forwarded by Comp. Pocock. This, he said, would be kept among the more recent records. He also read several letters, expressing regret, from those unable to attend, including Lord Holmesdale, Earl March, and others.

On the motion of Comp. C. J. SMITH, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Sir Walter Burrell for his very handsome gift of a complete set of collars and jewels to the chapter, and an official record of the gift was ordered to be made.

The PROV. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said the large attendance that day was the best omen of their future success. He trusted that all present might live to meet on many happy occasions, and that the Sussex Chapter would go on prosperously, and for an indefinite period. They might rely on his best endeavours to secure that result. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks was cordially given to the Installing Companion and the Grand Officers who had assisted him. In reply, Col. SHADWELL CLERKE said he most heartily wished the new chapter every prosperity. It had been opened under most favourable auspices, and nothing remained but for the companions in the province to work heartily together to ensure its permanence and prosperity. (Applause.)

The chapter was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where Comps. Sayers and Marks fully maintained their high position as public caterers. The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT presided, and he was supported by about seventy companions, including most of the Grand Officers present at the installation ceremony.

The list of toasts included "The Queen and Royal Arch Freemasonry," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and "The Officers of Grand Chapters," all of which were received with marked enthusiasm.

"The Health of the Grand Superintendent of Sussex" was proposed by Comp. COLONEL CLERKE, and received in an exceptionally hearty manner. He spoke of the especially happy selection which His Royal Highness had made in appointing Sir Walter to rule the destinies of Masonry in Sussex. His genial manner endeared him to all with whom he was brought into contact, and under his auspices the success of the Provincial Grand Chapter opened that day was undoubted. (Applause.)

The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT said it was exceedingly gratifying to be received on all occasions with so much kindness and heartiness in the Province of Sussex. The progress of Freemasonry was a healthy sign that its objects were appreciated, and it would be his constant aim to encourage good working and discipline alike in the various chapters as in the several lodges within the Province of Sussex. He relied on the hearty co-operation of the whole of the companions to make the new Provincial Grand Chapter an unqualified success. (Applause.)

"The Health of the Installing Officer and his Assistants" was responded to by Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE.

Comp. Sir J. B. MONCKTON proposed "The Health of the Second and Third Principals and Officers of the Prov. Grand Chapter." Comps. J. H. SCOTT and G. W. KING replied.

Comp. W. R. WOOD proposed the toasts of "The Visitors," which was responded to by Comps. T. FENN and MESSENT.

Comp. V. P. FREEMAN gave "The Principals of the Chapters in the Province of Sussex." Comp. JOS. FARNCOMBE, Lewes, and Comp. PIDCOCK, Eastbourne, replied. They stated that they considered the establishment of a Provincial Grand Chapter in Sussex a most auspicious event, and the companions of the various chapters were fully determined to secure its permanence and efficiency.

The Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings, which were interspersed by brilliant pianoforte selections by Comp. Kuhe, and songs by Comps. A. King, Large, and others.

The unanimous feeling of those present was that the proceedings were of a most enjoyable character, and that the success of this new advancement in Sussex Masonry was thoroughly assured.

CONSECRATION OF THE LUMLEY LODGE, NO. 1893, SKEGNESS, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Thursday, the 21st inst., an especial Prov. Grand Lodge was called for the purpose of constituting and dedicating the above lodge, being the twenty-first on the roll of the Province of Lincoln. The day being fine and the occasion one of some interest, a goodly number of the brethren were present.

The work of consecration was ably performed by the R.W. Bro. William Henry Smyth, Prov. Grand Master, assisted by the officers of the P.G. Lodge. Among those present we noticed W. Bros. E. Locock, 712, D.P.G.M.; T. M. Wilkinson, 297, P.G.S.W.; G. M. Lowe, M.D., 1386, P.G.J.W.; F. D. Marsden, 712, P.G. Sec.; T. C. Johnson, 1000, P.G.S.D.; W. H. Roberts, 792, P.G.D. of C.; Jno. Laughton, 422, P.G.P.; W. Cocking, 1286, W. Gray, 1447, C. F. Liversedge, 422, and H. T. Seels, jun., 426, W.M. 1893 designate, P.G. Stewards; and Benj. Box, 422, P.G. Tyler; also W. Bros. W. H. Bailes, 272, P.P.G.S.W. West Yorks; J. A. Thomas, 272, P.P.G.J.W.; George F. Burrell, 469, P.P.G.A.D.C.; T. Robinson, 469, P.P.G.J.D.; Rev. G. W. Lowe, 272, P.P.G. Chap.; Caleb Pocklington, 272, P.P.G.S.W.; Wm. Smart, 272, P.P.G.J.W.; Richard Hall, 297, P.P.G.S.W.; Chas. Smyth, 1600, P.P.G.P.; H. Sharp, 1304, P.P.G.J.W.; H. E. Turnour, 1286, P.P.G.S.D.; A. L. Keller, 426, P.P.G.O.; W. H. Sissons, 1447, P.P.G.J.W.; T. W. Thimbleby, 726, P.P.G.J.D.; Chas. Hensman, 1304, P.P.G.S. of W.; Bro. C. A. Kirby, 838 and 712, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Bros. J. Benner, W.M. 469; P. P. Dickenson, P.M. 297, P.G. Std. Br.; A. S. Steffensen, W.M. 792; Thos. Kirkby, W.M. 426; Thos. Mountain, W.M. 1294; J. Allen, P.M. 838; Jas. Casterton, W.M. 1286; B. Vickers, P.M. 297; P. T. Huddelsey, I.P.M. 1294; E. F. B. Lucas, I.P.M. 172; W. G. Smyth, S.D. 712; Chas. Smith, S.D. 588; H. Barker, S.W. 792; C. Reeve, S.W. 1286; J. H. Spry, 712; F. Cartwright, 426, S.W. designate; Sam Taylor, 426, J.W. designate; George Dunkley, 426, Sec. designate; and others; fifty-nine brethren having signed the attendance sheet. The brethren of the new lodge have been fortunate enough to obtain a capital room at the new estate offices of Lord Scarborough, whose family name the lodge bears, and we understand his lordship has granted permission for his coat of arms to be displayed on the lodge banner, with the motto "Murus Aeneus Conscientia Sana."

Proceedings commenced punctually at noon, the brethren assembled forming a procession under the able direction of Bro. W. H. Roberts, P.G. D. of C., Lodge 792. The R.W.P.G.M. being preceded by his banner, a magnificent work of art, presented some years since by Bro. John Hadfield, P.P.G.D., Lodge 792, Grimsby.

The Wardens' chairs were occupied respectively by Bros. T. W. Wilkinson, 297, P.G.S.W., and G. M. Lowe, M.D., 1386, P.G.J.W. The officers designate were Bro. Henry John Seels, jun., of Wainfleet, I.P.M. 426, as W.M.; Frederick Cartwright, of Skegness, as S.W.; Samuel Taylor, of Eastville, as J.W.

The brethren named in the warrant having been approved, the work of constitution and dedication was proceeded with in due form, the R.W.P.G.M. afterwards installing the W.M. Bro. George Dunkley was appointed Secretary and Treasurer. "Hearty good wishes" were received from no fewer than twenty-one lodges—wishes that bid fair to be realised, as five propositions were made in the room. The offertory on behalf of the Gen-

eral Fund of the Lumley Lodge amounted to £3 10s. 9d. The appointments of the lodge gave universal satisfaction. The musical portion of the ceremony was conducted by Bro. H. L. Keller, 426, P.P.G. Org. while Bro. the Rev. G. W. Lowe, 272, officiated as Provincial Grand Chaplain.

Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to Bro. Hildred's hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was done ample justice to, the chair being occupied by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Seels; the vice-chairs respectively by the S.W. and the P.G. Secretary. About fifty brethren were present, those living in Lincoln and the north-west having been obliged to depart by an early train to reach home that night. Several excellent speeches were made, the brethren separating at an early hour with much regret.

It is expected that this lodge will be much patronised by brethren visiting this pleasant little bathing place during the summer months. A noble pier, 600 feet in length, is nearly completed, and is expected to be opened in a short time, forming an additional attraction to the frequenters of this favourite resort of the brethren from Nottingham and the Midland Counties.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

Bro. T. R. PATTON, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, has forwarded to me a copy of the abstract of the proceedings of his Grand Lodge for 1880, containing nearly 250 pages, and, like all American reports, remarkably well printed. Amongst the more noticeable of its contents is the address of the R.W.G. Master, Bro. Michael Nisbet, which was delivered on the 27th December last, and there is one portion of it which I will ask your leave to quote, as it seems peculiarly adapted for the consideration of the brethren of many lodges in this country.

Speaking of errors in working Bro. Nisbet said:

"In endeavouring to repress errors we have had in many lodges to overcome the belief that they had the correct work. It is the exception where a lodge does not enjoy the possession of an oracle—generally self-constituted—who fosters this belief, and who by his assurance and pertinacity forces his instruction on each successive set of officers. An imperfect recollection of what he did when Worshipful Master, with a few of what he considers improvements in the prosaic work of this jurisdiction thrown in to make it more palatable, he lays down as the true work. If the Grand Master declares any portion of it erroneous, the oracle's pride is wounded, his veracity is considered impeached. He subsequently disarms criticism of his work by his brethren by declaring that each Grand Master has a work of his own, which accounts for the difference, and in a positive way re-affirms his former statements that his work is precisely the same as was done in the lodge when he was made a Mason. His positiveness has its effect upon his officers. They believe in him, &c. . . Of course there are many agreeable exceptions to the foregoing cases. . . That there is a marked improvement in the work it gives us pleasure to admit. . . The desire to learn the work has been aroused, and a spirit of emulation is being developed which is the harbinger of still greater efforts to exclude from the work all that may be a cause for censure or complaint."

The Grand Master also took occasion to warn the brethren "not to repeat outside the lodge what was done within it, as the profanes had nothing whatever to do with what transpired within its tiled precincts; impressing upon them never to recognise a sign or grip given at improper times or in improper places, except under such peculiar circumstances as warranted their being given; exhorting them to greater care in the selection of their officers, as the welfare and prosperity of the lodge largely depended not only upon the character of the brethren they elevated to the several stations, but also upon the zeal and efficiency they displayed in the discharge of the duties thereof, and suggesting that no officer should be advanced unless he merited it."

The report of the Committee in correspondence is also an able document, dealing incisively with the question of Grand Lodge jurisdiction. It is sufficient to mention that our good brother Clifford P. MacCalla, the talented editor of the *Keystone*, is a prominent member of that Committee to assure the Masonic world of the value of its work.

MARK NOTES.

1. The Mark Grand Lodge of England was formed in June, 1856, and comprises several lodges which have worked the Mark Degree for about a century; some 13,000 members having been advanced in its 250 lodges.
2. The Grand Lodge of England favoured Mark Masonry March, 1856, but failed to confirm its support at the Assembly in June, 1856, because the "Articles of Union" virtually prohibit the recognition of any Degrees other than the "Three" and the R.A.
3. The Grand Lodge of England recognises none of the "Higher Degrees," but does not prohibit its members belonging to them.
4. The Grand Lodge of Scotland recognises the Mark Degree as a part of Ancient Masonry, and allows it to be conferred in a Craft Lodge on Master Masons.
5. Many lodges in Scotland have their *Mark* books, several dating back to the seventeenth century, one being 1670.
6. Until recently the Mark Master's degree was given only to Master Masons, that of the "Mark Man" being conferred on Fellow Crafts; the latter circumstance doubtless giving rise to the belief that the former properly belongs to the "Second Degree."
7. The Mark Degree is recognised by every Grand Royal Arch Chapter in the world, save in England, the latter declining to do so (as with the other Degrees), because of the pledge given in December, 1813, which is clearly binding for all time. (Vide No. 2.)
8. The Mark Grand Lodge is recognised by the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Scotland and Ireland, the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States (comprising the Grand Chapters of thirty-six States), the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Iowa, Canada, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Illinois, Quebec, Maine, Texas, and North Carolina.
9. The *Mark* Degree as conferred in England is the same as given abroad, and the certificates of the Mark Grand Lodge render it unnecessary for Royal Arch companions from England to be advanced prior to membership in a foreign Grand Chapter, the Mark Degree being a necessary pre-requisite everywhere, save in England.—W. J. HUGHAN, in the *Canadian Craftsman*.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

PATRON AND PRESIDENT:
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
M.W.G.M., &c.
PATRONESS:
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

NINETY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

W. BRO. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D.,
President of the Board of Stewards.
W. BRO. WM. ROEBUCK, Grand Steward,
Treasurer.

The Ninety-third Anniversary Festival of this Institution will take place on WEDNESDAY, 18th MAY next, on which occasion the Right Hon.

SIR MICHAEL E. HICKS-BEACH, Bart.,
M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. for Gloucestershire,
in the Chair.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are urgently needed, and will greatly oblige by forwarding their names as early as possible to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Hon. Sec. Board of Stewards.
Office—5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, London, E.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Mrs. WEBB returns her sincere Thanks to those Gentlemen who kindly interested themselves in getting her son into the R.M. School at the April Election.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, MAY 2ND,

The Publishing and Printing Offices

OF

"THE FREEMASON"

WILL BE AT

16, GREAT QUEEN STREET,
(Opposite Freemasons' Hall).

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1881.

To Correspondents.

The following stand over:

Westbourne Lodge, No. 733.
Lodge of Industry, No. 48.
St. John of Wapping Lodge, No. 1306.
Wandsworth Lodge, No. 1044.
Lodge of St. Andrew, No. 518.
Martin's Lodge, No. 510.
King Harold Lodge, No. 1327.
Landport Lodge, No. 1776.
Pelham Lodge, No. 1303.
Pattison Chapter, No. 48.
Charlton Chapter, No. 1387.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"The Magazine of Art," "Der Long Islaender," "Keystone," "Report of the Centenary Festival of the St. Hilda Lodge, No. 240," "May's Press Guide," "Broad Arrow," "The New Zealand Freemason," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Jewish Chronicle," "Proceedings of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Massachusetts," "Sunday Times," "Proceedings of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Louisiana," "West London Advertiser," "The Hebrew Leader," "The Masonic Herald," "The Freemason" (Sydney), "Hull Packet."

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even approving of, the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish in a spirit of fair play to all to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read with some surprise the last paragraph of your article on the approaching festival of this Institution in your issue of the 23rd inst.

The information to which you refer is certainly no

derived from an official source, and is, I fear, greatly calculated to mislead.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you give me space for a few lines in your journal?

I am a "Steward" for the Festival for 1881, for the Girls' School, and am met with this difficulty. Some "wiseacre" or other has put about a story, which seems to be extensively circulated, that "no efforts are needed to bring up large returns, as they are already promised, &c."

This statement is, I need not point out to you, as you have already animadverted upon it in your columns, a complete fiction and a very hurtful blunder.

With a good many others, I am inclined to hope, Masonically speaking, that it has arisen from inadvertent and haphazard "gossip," which we know often abounds in respect to Masonic "sayings and doings." The "Jack Brag" of Theodora Hook's inimitable story is no unknown personality in Masonic circles.

Some brethren think they trace in this "myth" a purpose, and that purpose antagonistic to, and depreciatory of, the Girls' School.

For my part, as I said before, I profess to accept the more charitable interpretation, that it was spoken in "chaff" and has been circulated as a childish "canard."

But the assertion has done, and is doing, great harm to the Girls' School Festival. It has damped the energies of some, it has kept back the contributions of more; it has prevented many brethren offering their names as Stewards, and has rendered the labours of the Stewards themselves doubly difficult.

Under these circumstances I, for one, think it well to call the attention of your many readers to the facts of the case, and the untrustworthy statement alluded to, and venture to ask them, as a "Steward," to rally round the authorities of the Girls' School, and enable them to make a "good return" on the interesting occasion of the Anniversary in May, presided over by a distinguished Prov. Grand Master, one of our leading statesmen.

There is yet plenty of time to undo the serious evil, caused by hasty words or a mischievous statement, and it only requires a "long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," to render the Girls' School Anniversary of 1881 a legitimate triumph and a well merited success, alike for the welfare of its 225 inmates, as for the maintenance of one of the most remarkable Institutions our country can boast of.

Yours fraternally,

A STEWARD.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF TUNIS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can you tell me anything about this so-called Grand Body, what it is, and what are its claims to Masonic jurisdiction? I have seen some publications professing to emanate from it.

Is it a legal body?

Yours fraternally, MEDITERRANEAN PASS.

[We know nothing officially about it, except that it seems somehow or other to be mixed up with some recent controversies. From what we have heard we doubt its legal formation. Perhaps Bro. Broadley can enlighten us.—Ed. F.M.]

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am much pleased with the energy expressed in Bro. Dr. Woodman's letter in the *Freemason* of the 11th December last, and feel some surprise that it has taken so long to arouse it. On the 26th August, 1876, I wrote to the worthy brother on the subject, and again in 1878, these last being returned through the post, and were sent by me to Bro. Kenning, who handed them to Bro. Lewis, an officer of Grand Conclave, and on the 27th December, 1879, a letter appeared in the *Freemason*, to none of which any reply was given.

In conclusion, I positively state that since our constitution in January, 1875, no papers, letters, or documents have ever been received in Auckland from any Grand Officer of this Degree until the last mail, notwithstanding all my previous attempts to get information.

I do not know the Burdett Coult's Conclave at Dunedin, about 1000 miles distance, but I would like to ascertain from the Grand Recorder the position of the Alpha Crucis Conclave, No. 86, Beta Crucis, No. 109, Gamma Crucis, No. 110, and Wellington, No. 116, all of them constituted about the same time as ourselves, under the authority of the then Chief Intendant General for New Zealand, none of them, I believe, having received their charter or a certificate for any of their members.

HENRY G. WADE,

Recorder Delta Crucis Conclave, No. 126.

A QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your issue of April 23rd, under the head of "Masonic Tidings," a little notice is inserted stating that

two brethren of Lodge S13 advise all brethren who may have an opportunity to visit Amicitie Lodge at Boulogne.

I am both desirous and willing to visit said lodge when I have the opportunity; but are not brethren holding allegiance to the M.W. Grand Lodge of England interdicted from visiting in France? or, are there two Grand Bodies in France, one of which only is not recognised by this Grand Lodge?

Will you kindly enlighten me upon this point in your next issue?

And oblige, yours fraternally,

A PERPLEXED SUBSCRIBER.

YOUNG INSTRUCTORS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been anxiously waiting for the opinion of "true experts," in response to our worthy P.M.'s letter of the 9th inst., but must confess I am not disappointed in not seeing one, for I believe P.M.'s as a rule are too generous and well disposed towards the younger members of Freemasonry to attempt to check the interest and fervency which young members take in its proceedings; indeed, I have always found that P.M.'s encourage and assist the younger members to rise to distinction in knowledge, instead of attempting to crush it as "a serious evil," for when we find young members persevering and appreciating the sublimity of its ritual, we may look forward to the time when every W.M. will do justice to the proud position in which he is placed, and inability to perform the duties will be a thing of the past.

Again, it is not always possible for every lodge to have a P.M. as Preceptor, many are not sufficiently acquainted, and others cannot make it convenient to fulfil the duties of that important position; and as every lodge chooses its own Preceptor we need not fear that Masonry will suffer by the "arrogance" and impetuosity of youth, but on the contrary, by selecting the best acquainted and patient amongst its number, whether an officer or not, lodges of instruction will flourish, and when those members shall be no longer able to discharge that duty, may we find many young members willing and capable to hold that responsible position.

Your fraternally,

W. A. S.

THE OLDEST FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In getting at the fact as to who is the "Oldest Freemason" the following must be taken into consideration. 1st, The date of initiation, and then, has the brother referred to been a subscriber without intermission ever since his initiation, for we know that so soon as a brother ceases to pay his dues he ceases to be recognised in Grand Lodge and in his own lodge, i.e., he loses all his previous Masonic rank. Now in the case of R.W. Bro. Wm. Eliot, P.P.G.M. of Dorset, P.M. All Souls, No. 170, P.G. Supt. of Royal Arch Masons of Dorset, and P.Z. All Souls' Chapter, ever since February, 1816, he has been, and still is, a subscriber to his mother lodge, which any brother can verify by writing to Grand Lodge on the subject. As a regular reader of the *Freemason* I shall be pleased to see a list of all living brethren who are still subscribers to some lodge, and who were initiated between 1810 and 1831. Can you compile a list and give it publicity—if so, all Masonic students will be glad to add it to their other interesting documents, and no one more so than,

Yours truly and fraternally,

ZILLWOOD-MILLEDGE,

P.G. Steward Dorset, Sec. All Souls, No. 170,

P.S. All Souls' Chapter, 170.

Lea House, Weymouth, April 24th.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF TUNIS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have lately seen a little "green" handbook professing to give an account of the ritual and principles of the Grand Orient of Tunis, though it seems also to be connected with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Can any of your readers give me an account of this Masonic jurisdiction? Is it a legal one?

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

ONCE A SOJOURNER IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN.

Reviews.

THE FREEMASON. Toronto, Canada. No. 1, April 1881.

This first number of our namesake contemporary has reached us, and we have read it with pleasure and with interest. It is a very well edited little journal, and full of interesting items and Masonic facts. We think that we can safely predicate for it a prosperous career. We like much what we have seen of it, and hope to see more.

BRITISH POLICY TOWARDS THE BOERS. By G. B. CLARK, M.D. Ridge way, Piccadilly.

This pamphlet is too political for our absolutely neutral pages; we cannot here follow its arguments, or announce its conclusions. On this subject, as on most others, there are necessarily two sides, and very strong sides too, and it would seem even to the most non-political reader that such

opinions are very vehemently expressed. We trust that all may tend to the careful maintenance of the just rights of the peaceful settlers, the maintenance of the Queen's supremacy, and the honour of the English flag.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA. Part III. 1880.

This most admirably printed volume, kindly forwarded to us by our esteemed friend C. E. Meyer, of Philadelphia, whose name is honoured by Masons alike in England and America, has been read by us with the deepest interest. We congratulate the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on such an admirable evidence of their good work and happy progress; and the production of such a work and its artistic completion reflect the highest credit on all connected with its preparation and issue.

GRAND LODGE RECORDS. Connecticut. 93rd Annual Report, 1881.

This very clear and satisfactory record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has been most kindly forwarded to us. There were, on January 1st, 1881, 14,600 Masons, and 120 lodges.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

This is a very lucid "résumé" of the work of this flourishing Grand Lodge, and well deserves noting and perusal.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

ELIAS ASHMOLE.

I recur to a subject I have mentioned in these columns. Can any identification be made of the brethren whose names are given by Ashmole, and who were present at his initiation, or reception, and that of Col. Mainwaring, at Warrington in 1646? Surely "Penket," the Warden's name, might be found among the 17th century parochial registers. Is there no brother of the "Lodge of Lights" who can facilitate this research?

MASONIC STUDENT.

THE HIGH GRADES.

We have yet a good deal to learn about the "High Grades," their origin and development. That they are the creation and consequence of Ramsay's movements is now a matter of the gravest doubt.

MASONIC STUDENT.

RAMSAY.

Findel, following Ragon and others, makes Ramsay the founder of Jacobite Masonry. But is there any evidence of the fact? Ramsay died in 1743, and seems to have left Masonry soon after his famous address in 1737, and we find no trace of him.

MASONIC STUDENT.

THE RITE DE BOUILLON.

What authority is there for crediting Ramsay with the authorship of this so-called "Rite," except "sheep-walkin' g?" No contemporary writer mentions the fact. I have seen what purported to be Oliver's copy of it, and that certainly was a late Eighteenth if not early Nineteenth Century production. A French brother might perhaps search in the Grande Librairie, Rue de Richelieu, Paris, and find an early copy of it. There are some High Grade rituals of about 1770 there, and a very curious old ritual of the "Chevaliers de l'Orient."

MASONIC STUDENT.

A NEW ATTACK ON FREEMASONRY.

"The Jews and Freemasons; or, the Sixth Age of the Church."
"Les Juifs et les Franc-maçons; ou, le Sixieme Age de l'Eglise."

This work is written by a priest of the Roman Catholic Church, it is said, under the name of M.M. Saint Andre, and forms part of a much larger work on the Apocalypse.

Let us listen to it.
"The Sixth Age has commenced with the 18th century, and is immediately marked by the second unchaining of Satan, i.e. Freemasonry."

"What is Freemasonry?
"Freemasonry is a secret and very ancient association, mother and rectress of all the other secret societies of our epoch, spread at the present time in the entire world, which has for an aim the destruction of the Church and of the Catholic religion, the overthrow of all Christian social order, and of the establishment on its ruins the universal domination of the Jewish people."

The following are the great divisions of the work: Definition of Freemasonry; its condemnation by the Church, (of Rome); Origin of Freemasonry; Development of Freemasonry; Organization of Freemasonry; Means of Action of Freemasonry; Final State of Freemasonry.

We have deemed it right to record the fact and make a "note of it," in the hope that it will give to our readers, as it has afforded to us, a hearty laugh. These apocalyptic revelations and explanations are alike out of vogue and generally suspected just now; but to have such a view deliberately put forward by our Ultramontane school tells us all in unmistakable terms that they have both forgotten the true "exegesis" of Scripture and have lost, like other exponents, their common sense.

CONSECRATION OF THE SELWYN LODGE, No. 1901.

A new lodge called the Selwyn Lodge, and numbered 1901 on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, was consecrated on Thursday, the 21st inst., at the East Dulwich Hotel, by Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary. Bros. Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D., acted as S.W.; Hugh D. Sandeman, Past District Grand Master of Bengal, as J.W.; Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, P.G.D., as S.D.; C. W. C. Hutton, P.G.D., as J.D.; the Rev. Ambrose V. Hall, P. Prov. G. Chaplain Surrey, as Chaplain; E. M. Lott, P.P.J.W. Jersey, P.P.G. Organist Surrey, as Org.; J. W. Brooke, P.M. 1839, as I.G.; James Terry, P.P.G. J.W. Herts, acted as D.C. The musical portion of the ceremony was performed by Bros. E. J. Carter, J. L. Hodges, P. W. Le Queue, and Wallis; E. M. Lott at the piano. The other brethren present were: Bros. W. Angus, P.M. 619; W. Vail, 1155; J. Seex, P.M. 186; W. King, W.M. 840; T. Wallis, 901; G. W. Hook, J.D. 186; Thomas Preston, Sec., 1669; W. Davies, 177; Capt. J. Ball, P.M.; C. Mussered, 166; A. J. Bellis, 1297; W. Hawkins, 1287; C. H. Cox, 1260; C. Sawyer, W.M. 1892; W. West Smith, P.M. 890; A. Campbell, 1329; W. J. Bullimore, 840; R. Allison, I.P.M.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. Batchelor, 147; J. M. Klenck, P.M. 1656, 1339; R. P. Forge, J.W. 619; R. J. Harris, 1135; A. Trewinard, P.M. 1693; J. S. Gurney, and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (Freemason).

After the formal ceremonies of opening the lodge, Col. SHADWELL CLERKE in addressing the brethren, said that the Selwyn Lodge was to be congratulated on having had a warrant granted for its formation at a time when warrants were not being granted for lodges within the metropolitan area. There were, however, some special points connected with this lodge, which had no doubt influenced the Most Worshipful Grand Master in acceding to the prayer of the petition. One reason was that all the petitioners were bona fide residents in the neighbourhood where it was intended to hold the meetings of the lodge, and a further reason was that they intended as much as possible to limit the number of members of the lodge to residents in the neighbourhood. Without wishing to protract the proceedings by any lengthened remarks, he would nevertheless repeat what was frequently said on the occasion of consecrations, that the brethren should not be hasty in increasing the numbers of the lodge, or be ambitious to make it a large lodge. He hoped they would be careful as to the admission of candidates, and be thoroughly satisfied first of all that they were worthy to belong to the Order, because while it was very easy to get a man into a lodge it was very difficult if they were afterwards not satisfied with him to get rid of him. He hoped the brethren would exercise due caution in swelling their numbers, and that the lodge would always hold its own.

The Rev. AMBROSE HALL delivered the oration. In doing so he said that on laying the foundation stone of any building, or at the formation of any new society, it was customary to ask some one present to say a few words bearing upon the uses to which if a building it was to be applied, or if a new society, on its nature or principles and the qualification generally of its members. He was asked that day to address a new lodge upon the nature and principles of Freemasonry, and he thought it a time most suitable because as with the young the mind was more impressible and more easily received knowledge, and the inculcation of wisdom or the opposite. It was in youth that the mental soil was more qualified to receive the seed, and was, so to speak, more pure. So with a new lodge; and it was well to take advantage of its early life to impress upon its officers, founders, and members the great responsibility that they were about to take upon themselves, as well as the onerous duties that they would be called upon to fulfil. He would draw their attention to what King David said to his son Solomon shortly before his death, because, he thought, it would be applicable to a new lodge, and would help the brethren on with their task, and render that task more easy, as well as render the lodge as a body, and each member as a component part of that body, more bright and shining lights in the expanse of their great Order. King David said: "Solomon, my son, know thou the God of thy fathers, and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind, for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth every imagination of the thoughts; if thou seek Him He will be fond of thee, but if thou forsake Him He will cast thee off for ever." So it was well to say to a new lodge or a new society, especially at the present day, in times of infidelity, when many of the brethren in a sister land had fallen from their first estate, and disregarded and cast away the presence of the Great Architect of the Universe from their rites and ceremonies, "In all you do, in all your working, know the God of your fathers; and in all this serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind;" because, as they were told in the Third Degree of Freemasonry, "the Lord searcheth all hearts and understandeth every imagination of the thoughts;" in other words—all their words and all their actions were known and recorded by the Most High, to whom they must one day give account of their conduct in life. And in their beautiful rites and ceremonies and in the teachings that they symbolised they should serve Him with a perfect heart, and be assured that if in those rites and ceremonies they thought of Him, acknowledged Him, felt His presence, He would be with them. But if they did not feel that His eye was upon them, and that He was never with them, if, so to speak, they forsook Him, He would forsake them and their house—their new lodge would be left desolate. A word or two upon the nature and principles of Freemasonry. It was, as they well knew, not restricted to any particular sect or party; it was wide as the universe and lasting as eternity; its branches were spread over the four quarters of the world—a community of human sympathies and human goodwill. Then it embraced myriads of men of every clime and of every country. They had the experience of 3000 years to tell them that charity and goodwill were the distinguishing characteristics of their noble Order. And to the brethren assembled, a sacred band, these virtues and teachings and mysteries were to be confided that day; and if they would use them as they ought, if they would preserve them in their entirety, there must be a perfect feeling of unanimity among them as members. When he saw the members, the founders, the officers of this lodge, and knew how eminent they were in Masonry, he felt sure that there was a happy future before the Selwyn Lodge, and that it would take a foremost place in the annals of

Freemasonry, and that as time went on there would be many choosing to range themselves under their banner, either as joining members or as candidates for initiation. Let them take advice of one who had some large experience in that matter—be not too hurried in making a member, but seek him out. If a joining member seek him out at his residence, search into his moral and social position; if a candidate for initiation seek him out likewise, ask his friends and neighbours who knew him well, and see whether from his general qualities as a man he was likely to become a good Mason, an ornament to the lodge, with whom they could work in that love and harmony which always should characterise members of the Order. As regarded the principles of the Order, he would urge the brethren even at this very early day to cultivate that brotherly love which thought no evil, which rejoiced with those that rejoice, and wept with those who wept. Likewise let them put forward that relief which helped them to relieve a brother's wants and succour his infirmities—in other words, that charity which would bring them forward in every good deed towards their fellow-men. And whilst upon charity he would call their attention as a new lodge to this subject, to do all they could, and he trusted they would, both by their money and their time, in promoting the noble charities of the Order, which well deserved all they could receive at their hands. He had been asked not to detain them very long; so, although he could dwell much upon these principles, yet there was one he had not mentioned, but which he would mention, and that was truth. Let them cultivate Masonic truth, for it was an object of research of every good and worthy Mason. Cultivate it as the opposite of falsehood, as the feeling of the heart coming from the mouth—that good walk through life which all of them should aim at—purity, faithfulness, and honesty. He would now simply thank them for the attention they had paid to the few words he had been permitted to address to them. Be assured that the Selwyn Lodge, its founders, officers, and members, had his best wishes that they might work together many years in happiness and harmony, and if that day one word of his should have fallen upon good ground, and like the bread cast upon the waters, after many days to return with good effect to any brother there; if aught that he had said might confirm one doubting brother in the conviction that Masonry was a living, not a dead power, his visit to them that day had not been in vain, and to the Great Architect of the Universe be all the honour and all the glory. If in that short address he had said too much he asked their leniency, because he was assured that when he went home and meditated upon the meeting they had had he should be cheered by the feeling that he took with him the goodwill of every one of them. And now let him commend them to their work. Work as good Masons, trust in the Great Architect of the Universe, and pray to Him that his light might be shed upon them, and pour into their hearts all that was good and true. Work, and trust, and pray, for if they would bear the conqueror's crown to the Grand Lodge above they must cherish Masonic truth, cherish it for its own sake, and then when death's calm sleep was o'er in heaven they would wake.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and at its conclusion Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerke installed Bro. William Henry Hook, P.M. 156 and 1619, as Worshipful Master of the lodge. The brethren invested as officers were Bros. W. W. Linscott, S.W.; L. C. N. Nicod, J.W.; W. R. Burnett, S.D.; A. R. W. Powles, J.D.; W. B. Marcus, I.G.; and J. Woodstock, Tyler.

The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers, to whom the lodge felt deeply indebted, for often as they had seen the ceremony performed they had never seen it performed so impressively and solemnly. He also proposed that the vote which should convey the honorary membership of the lodge to Col. Clerke, Capt. Philips, Bro. Sandeman, the Rev. Ambrose Hall, and Bro. Terry, should be entered on the lodge minutes.

Bro. LINSYCOTT, S.W., seconded the motion, which was put, and carried unanimously.

Col. SHADWELL CLERKE, in acknowledging the vote, said it had been a very great pleasure to all the Consecrating Officers to come that day, and give what assistance they could in advancing the Selwyn Lodge. They wished it all success, and in the name of himself and the other brethren mentioned in the vote, he accepted with great pleasure the compliment the lodge had paid them by making them honorary members. They hoped occasionally to avail themselves of the privilege so conferred to come to the lodge and witness its success.

A long list of names for initiation and joining was then proposed and seconded, and after "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

A choice banquet followed the working of the lodge. Bro. Hook presided. At the conclusion of the repast the usual toasts were proposed.

The W.M. having proposed the two first loyal toasts, proposed "The Pro Grand Master, &c," and with reference to the presence of the Grand Officers said that the lodge esteemed it a great honour that those brethren had not considered it *infra dig.* to attend in such numbers to give the Selwyn Lodge a start. In connection also with the ceremony of the day he referred again to the admirable performance which the brethren had that day seen.

Bro. H. D. SANDEMAN responded, and said if the time was not so advanced he should be glad to speak at considerable length. All Grand Officers, whatever their position, had devoted a good deal of time to the welfare of Freemasonry, and there was no greater pleasure to a Grand Officer than to take part in the consecration of a new lodge. He said this because the W.M. had said the Grand Officers did not think it *infra dig.* to assist in the consecration of a lodge. The Grand Officers never could think anything *infra dig.* which assisted Masonry, and in consecrating a new lodge, speaking of himself and all the other Grand Officers, it was a great pleasure to them to bring a new lodge into existence, more especially when it was so efficiently and ably performed as it had been by the Grand Secretary that day. All of them would go away with a pleasing recollection of the evening they had spent among the brethren of the Selwyn Lodge, which would remain with them for the rest of their lives.

Col. SOMERVILLE BURNEY would say one word in addition to what had fallen from Bro. Sandeman. For himself it afforded him much pleasure to have been present, not only to see a new lodge spring into existence, but to hear of the admirable way in which the lodge had been managed. He had seen a good many lodges consecrated, but he had never seen the proceedings carried on so well as in this lodge. He thought it would be a most successful

lodge, and would take an important place on the roll of the Grand Lodge.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S., the Consecrating Officer." Col. Clerke had been of great assistance in the getting up of the lodge. The brethren had received great kindness from him. He could not say too much either of his kindness or of the splendid way in which he had performed the ceremony that day. All the brethren felt a debt of gratitude to Col. Clerke for his kindness in every way. He (the W.M.) went to Col. Clerke about the lodge. He offered him every facility, and gave him the advice which had culminated in everything that day being perfect. The lodge was not for to-day only; it was for ages, and he hoped it had a great future before it.

COL. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G.S., in reply, said it had been a great pleasure to him to assist in the consecration of the lodge. In whatever advice he was able to give the W.M., and in the proceedings of the day, he must say everything had been conducted very satisfactorily on the part of the lodge, and he felt quite sure that the lodge would hold a good position among the lodges of London. He hoped to visit it occasionally, and see its progress. He then proposed "The Health of the W.M." From the intercourse he had had with Bro. Hook on the subject of the foundation of this lodge he had had ample proofs that he was a brother well fitted to take the position of W.M. He had already filled the Master's chair of two other lodges, and not only so, but he had given good proof of his heartiness in Masonry by initiating in Masonry his son, who was now present. There were also other relatives of the W.M. present, and it was quite clear that with such a W.M. the Selwyn Lodge would progress favourably.

The W.M. thanked the gallant Colonel for what he had said, and the brethren for their cordial reception of it. He hoped that all the Grand Secretary had said would come to pass. It should not be his fault if it did not. He should work with a hearty goodwill in the lodge. He had been very much pleased at the very commencement to assist the brethren. He had worked with them up to the present point, and having got over so many difficulties there was very little left. The gentlemen whom they proposed to initiate, and the brethren to be admitted as joining members, they had known some time in that locality as worthy to join them, and altogether they might call the lodge a family party. They met each other daily, and he believed the lodge was well situated for fraternity and good feeling. The very purpose of starting the lodge was that they might talk Masonry, which they could not do in other places. They could not work Masonry in a railway train, but now, through the kindness of the Grand Master, and all the interest that was brought to bear on the point, they were centred in one quarter. He was proud to have been honoured with the position of being one of the humble instruments in obtaining the warrant, and also with presiding at the festive board that night.

The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors." Bro. C. W. C. HUTTON, P.G.D., responded. If he was not, he said, a somewhat elderly Mason, he should be somewhat daunted with the task which the W.M. had placed upon him. They had all heard and known in their early days that one of the great characteristics of the Masonic Craft was hospitality. He confessed that he had been for a great many years in the habit of attending Masonic lodges in every part of the country, but he did not think that he ever was present even at the consecration of a lodge where he found the brethren of the lodge in so immense a minority as they were that evening. It spoke greatly for the spirit which characterised the lodge, and which he thought would in future actuate the brethren in carrying out the great feature of Masonic hospitality. He did not know whether it had ever fallen to the lot of any of the brethren to travel in foreign countries, or that they had felt the advantages of belonging to a brotherhood, but it had fallen to his lot very early in life in France, Germany, Italy, Turkey, and Malta, and in each one of those countries he had found the advantage of belonging to a system of morality which was universal. The W.M. had dilated a little on the domestic character of the lodge. That very character was a thing which should be perpetuated by all Masonic bodies. Birds of a feather flocked together, Masonically and in every other way, and Masonry had this great charm about it that it broke down all those partitions which separated people in the English nation. It had happened by a fluke that he was there that night. He did not know how it was he was invited, but by a most peculiar feature which was also characteristic of Freemasonry, as soon as he met the W.M. at the lodge he told him that he had known him (Bro. Hutton) twenty years. That was quite true, and when the brethren had for a W.M. one who had been no rolling-stone through life, but had created for himself a very high position in the estimation of his circle, and if in addition they had a man of energy to get up a lodge, and overcome the difficulties in the way of getting up a new metropolitan lodge in the present day, that was a man they ought all to look up to. Speaking to the members of the Selwyn Lodge, they ought to look up to and be proud of Bro. Hook. It had afforded him (Bro. Hutton), as a locator long in that neighbourhood, for thirty-five years, personally and individually, very great pleasure—and he believed he was speaking his own sentiments and those of the other brethren who were visitors—to be among the members of the lodge that night; it afforded him still greater pleasure to find they had chosen a man of energy, a man of character, a man of position to take upon himself the founding of this lodge, who had brought it to its present excellence, and who, judging of the future by the past, would bring the lodge, if they attended to his doctrines, to a very considerable extent of mark in the position of Masonry. (Cheers.)

The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Lott," who had been of great service that evening by taking the position of Organist at the consecration of the lodge.

Bro. LOTT replied.

The W.M. next proposed "The Officers."

Bro. LINSFORTH responded.

To the toast of "The Recommending Lodges," Bros. ANGUS, PRESTON, and FORGE responded.

The W.M. proposed "The Charities," and said that he hoped next year to take the office of Steward for one of those Institutions on behalf of the lodge.

Bro. JAMES TERRY (Secretary of the Benevolent Institution) responded. Referring to the Boys' and Girls' Schools, he narrated the success those Institutions had at Christmas with the examinees at the Cambridge Local Examination, and said it was an evidence that Freemasons had not subscribed to those Institutions in vain. With

reference to his own Institution, the candidates had no examination to pass. There were ninety-eight on the list for next election, and only twenty vacancies. The last festival produced £14,360, but that was only paying their expenses, for the Institution was now disbursing £11,750 to annuitants. He was very desirous on the 20th of May to place an additional number on the list. There had already occurred some vacancies by death, which would have to be filled up. Although the Craft had done much, and would do all it could to cope with the large demands upon it, it was only by the institution of new lodges that the benefits could be increased. Though it was not for him to dictate to the W.M. which of the Institutions he should be Steward for, he could not do better than support the Benevolent. It had been said that it was not necessary for the Secretaries of the Institutions to visit lodges, but he ventured to differ. The day before he was at the Longleat Lodge at Warminster, and he came away with two cheques—one for fifteen guineas for the old men and one for five guineas for the old women—not one penny for the Boys' or Girls', because the Secretaries had not visited the lodge. He hoped that by his presence that night his humble services as D.C. would be remembered. (Hear, hear.) He believed that visiting lodges was necessary for the Institutions. People in business did not sit down in their offices and expect business to come to them—they sent out travellers. Bro. Terry then contrasted the Girls' and Boys' Schools with the Benevolent Institution, and said that last year the Girls' School had so much money that, in addition to laying out £5000 to purchase and prepare a house, they had taken in twenty-five extra girls. Now, the Benevolent Institution when it took in additional annuitants had no increase at all in its working expenses. He trusted its claims would never be lost sight of in the Selwyn Lodge.

Some other toasts followed, and the proceedings closed with the Tyler's toast.

CONSECRATION OF THE BREADALBANE LODGE, No. 657, ABERFELDY.

On Tuesday, the 19th inst., the Breadalbane Lodge, No. 657, was consecrated at Aberfeldy, and the office-bearers were installed by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The want of a lodge in the village was long felt, the nearest lodge being the Tay and Lyon, which is situate at Kenmore, some six miles distant. The members of the Tay and Lyon Lodge resident in Aberfeldy and district held meetings in Aberfeldy in what is called a deputation lodge; but about twelve months ago a Royal Arch chapter was formed in the district, and it was thought expedient to have a lodge in connection with it in the village. Some time ago several brethren of the Craft connected with the chapter formed themselves into a lodge, called it the Breadalbane Lodge, and received a charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. From the beginning the Earl of Breadalbane, P.G.M. of Perthshire East, has taken a very great interest in the matter, which has been brought to a successful issue. The membership of the new lodge is 25, and the charter was granted on the 3rd February last. The ceremony took place in the school-room, which was tastefully decorated with evergreens, camellias, banners, candles, and flags. On the west wall was the motto "The Queen, Country, and the Craft," while on the east wall there was "Success to Freemasons." There was a large attendance of Masons, representatives being present from Lodge No. 3, Scone and Perth; No. 14, Dunkeld; No. 74, St. Andrew, Perth; No. 225, F. and K., Dundee; and 276, Tay and Lyon, Kenmore. Bro. Lieut. Middleton was present, representing the Provincial Grand Lodge, Gibraltar. The deputation from the Grand Lodge consisted of Bros. the Earl of Breadalbane, J. Crombie, Edward Savage, A. J. McConnochie, and Charles Shepherd, Aberdeen; Crichton, Kinnear, Alex. Hay, Edwards, and Bryce, Edinburgh. From the Provincial Grand Lodge, Perthshire (East), there were present Bros. Provost Richardson, P.G.S.W.; Dr. Morrison, Dunning, P.G.S.; ex-Bailie Chalmers, P.G.T.; A. Paterson, P.G.J.D.; and Campbell, P.G. Swardbearer. Among others present were Bros. Lieut. R. McLaren, Sir Molyneux Nepean; W. D. Campbell, D.G.P.M. of Haddingtonshire and of Lodge Apollo, Oxford University; H. Gardiner, United, 1629; Hunter, acting R.W.M. No. 3; E. Paton, R.W.M. No. 74; F. P. Carnegie, R.W.M. No. 122; W. B. Thomson, and Cameron, Tay and Lyon.

At two o'clock the lodge was opened in due and ancient form, when four brethren were raised by Bro. J. Crombie. The lodge was then consecrated, the anthem being led by Bro. R. Lees. Thereafter Bro. Sellars was duly installed as R.W.M., and the remaining office-bearers were as follows: Bros. J. Y. Stewart, S.W.; J. Macdonald, J.W.; S. Cruden, S.D.; W. Gow, J.D.; Jas. Stewart, I.G.; and J. Macdonald, Tyler.

At the ceremony Bro. the Earl of Breadalbane acted as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Scotland, the installation being performed by Bro. J. Crombie, assisted by Bro. Savage as Depute Master. The other office-bearers of the Grand Lodge who took part in the proceedings were Bros. Kinnear, G.T., acting for the Secretary; Crichton, P.G.S.W.; Alex. Hay, P.G.J.W.; Edwards, Edinburgh, and Charles Shepherd, acting Deacons; McConnochie, Dir. of Cers.; and Bryce, G.T., acting as Grand Marshal. The music at the ceremony was played by Bro. H. W. Cambridge, Organist of the lodge. The raising, consecration, and installation, which were very impressive, occupied about three hours. Thereafter the lodge was closed, a procession was formed, headed by Mr. D. McDougall, the Earl of Breadalbane's piper, and the brethren marched to the Breadalbane Arms.

At six o'clock most of the brethren present at the ceremony in the afternoon dined in the Breadalbane Arms. Bro. the Earl of Breadalbane occupied the chair, and Bro. W. D. Campbell officiated as Croupier. After an excellent dinner, set down and served by Mr. Davies,

The noble CHAIRMAN gave in succession "The Healths of the Queen," and "The Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family." In proposing "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," the Chairman said the navy had not been tried for many years, but he had no doubt that they would always be found doing their duty. As to the army there could be no question. Judging from their exploits at Afghanistan and the Cape they had not fallen off. Continuing, his lordship said he did not think they had. (Hear, hear.) They had not fought to the bitter end, but if they had he had no doubt that the result would have been the same as in Afghanistan

and Zululand. (Hear, hear.) The navy was coupled with the name of ex-Lord Provost Richardson, ex-Lord High Admiral of the Tay, the army with Sir Molyneux Nepean, and the reserve forces with that of Capt. Morison, of the Perthshire Rifles.

Bro. ex-Provost RICHARDSON said that he had the honour some two years ago to hold a very high commission, namely, the Admiral of the Tay. (Laughter and applause.) He could not say that there was any war during the time he held the position, but there were rumours of war—the Provost of Dundee threatened the Provost, the Lord Provost of Perth—(laughter)—but like what occurred in the Transvaal, peace was declared. (Applause.)

Bro. SIR MOLYNEUX NEPEAN said he had once belonged to the army, and he could say he always found it fit to do its duty, and doubtless it was ready to do it again. He did not wish to find fault. When he was in the service the soldiers were men; but when he saw a lot of boys not fit to carry their knapsacks he was not ashamed, but sorry, for the recent reverses in the Transvaal. A friend of his had said to him while passing a number of recruits in one of the streets in Glasgow, "Major, give me a string of sausages and I will knock down the whole lot of them." (Laughter.) He was sorry to say that that was very much the case with the British army. They had got pluck, but they had not got stamina. A poor young boy would fight till he died, but he could not bear fatigues. He had been a soldier, a sailor, in the militia, and now he was able to take command of a body of police. (Laughter and applause.)

Bro. Captain MORISON replied in suitable terms for the reserve forces.

Bro. ex-Provost RICHARDSON next gave "The Grand Lodge of Scotland." They had been greatly indebted that day to the deputation from the Grand Lodge, who had visited Aberfeldy. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Kinnear, worthy Treasurer.

Bro. KINNEAR responded.

Bro. F. P. CARNEGIE, Perth, proposed "The Sister Grand Lodges of England and Ireland," and in doing so paid a high compliment to the Prince of Wales, the Patron of Freemasonry in England. In his opinion Masonry was wrought much more clearly and distinctly in England than they found it in Scotland. At the present moment in many parts it was not safe to say much about Ireland; but he was sure that if Englishmen, Scotchmen, and Irishmen were to become Freemasons and practise Masonry as it had been set before them that day there would be fewer disturbances and a great many better men.

Mr. HERBERT GARDINER replied.

Bro. the Rev. Mr. BRUNTON, of the Royal Arch Lodge, Perth, proposed "Prosperity to the Provincial Grand Lodges of Scotland." He said that he had never before seen the sceptre of Freemasonry so worthily wielded, and so much of the ritual displayed in such a solemn and pleasing manner. It was a pity that Perthshire West had not been represented that day, but Perthshire East had made up for it. Having such a man at their head, and with such enthusiasm, the day's proceedings would tell very much in favour of Freemasonry. There was one good feature that Masons in Scotland had to learn from their brethren in England, and that was in regard to charity. They all talked about charity, but in Scotland in regard to it and its practical application they did very little indeed. In England they saw that principle largely carried out, not only magnificent in idea, but magnificent in action, for there were palatial establishments erected by Masons for the infirm, and for the sons and daughters of Freemasons. Such actions ennobled their brotherhood and forwarded their principles. Mr. Brunton referred to the fact that during a time of war in the country's history, when pains and penalties were exacted from all other secret societies, Freemasonry was the only secret institution in the country which was not interfered with. There was no civilised country that had not Masonic lodges, and the more civilised the country the more lodges there were.

Bro. PATON, R.W.M. of the St. Andrew Lodge, No. 74, replied. He did not entirely concur with all the remarks made by Bro. Brunton, for he considered that when they had 657 lodges in Scotland, out of a population something like three-and-a-half millions, they were doing remarkably well. (Applause.)

Sir MOLYNEUX NEPEAN gave "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire East."

Bro. the Earl of BREADALBANE, in reply, said he felt that in occupying the chair that night he was usurping the post of the Duke of Athole, the Provincial Grand Master of Perthshire West, whom he hoped to have seen present that night. He could only say that it was a very easy task to be Provincial Grand Master of Perthshire East, because, with all due deference to what had been said that night, he was sure if Bro. Sir Molyneux Nepean visited some of the lodges in the province he would find that they were exceedingly well wrought. (Applause.)

Bro. W. B. THOMPSON gave "The Lodges in Perthshire."

Bro. JACK, Dunkeld, replied.

The CROUPIER proposed "Prosperity to Lodge Breadalbane, No. 657," and Bro. W. SELLARS, R.W.M., replied. At this stage the Croupier sang "Jeannie's Bawbee." The other toasts were "The Officers of the New Lodge," proposed by Bro. HAY, of the Grand Lodge, and responded to by Bro. J. Y. STEWART, S.W.; "The Installing Officer, Bro. Crombie," proposed by Bro. CHALMERS, P.G.T., and replied to by Bro. J. Y. STEWART; "The Deputations," proposed by Bro. W. B. THOMPSON, and acknowledged by Bro. JACK, Dunkeld; "The Craft;" "The Chairman," proposed by Bro. SAVAGE; and "The Croupier" proposed by Bro. JOHN CAMERON, and brought to a Lodge Tay and Lyon. The toast list was "Breadalbane," close with "The Health of the Countess of Breadalbane," which was proposed by Sir MOLYNEUX NEPEAN, and acknowledged by his Lordship. Before proceeding to the ball-room the company joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

At nine o'clock a ball was opened in the School-room. Among these present were the Earl and Countess of Breadalbane, Sir Robert Menzies, Bart., W. D. Campbell, of Menzies, Sir Molyneux Nepean, Mr. J. H. Hume, The Cottage, Mr. Herbert Gardiner, Mr. J. Humpries, Bett, Mr. Patrick Pitlochry; Mr. R. B. Barrett, Mr. Thomas Bell, Mr. Hugh Bett, Mr. A. W. Fraser, Mr. Wm. Menzies. The music was M'Kenzie, Maskeylia House; and other bands, Perth, and the supplied by the Royal Arch Masonic Band, Perth, and the Earl of Breadalbane's pipers. Dancing was kept up till an early hour in the morning.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SOUTH WALES.

A meeting of the Mark lodges of the Province of South Wales was held under the banner of the Langley Lodge on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Cardiff. The province has recently been placed under the charge of the Grand Mark Registrar of England, Bro. H. C. Levander, as acting Provincial Grand Master, who on Tuesday attended for the purpose of re-organising the Prov. Grand Lodge. There was a fair muster of the brethren of the various lodges of South Wales. The acting Provincial Grand Master, accompanied and assisted by Bro. Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary of England, opened the Provincial Grand Lodge at three p.m. The following brethren were appointed and invested as Grand Officers of the province for the ensuing year:

Bro. John Rogers, P.M. 28	...	Prov. D.P.G.M.
William Williams, W.M.	...	Prov. S.G.W.
Joseph Thomas, P.M. 28	...	Prov. J.G.W.
J. C. Sladen, P.M. 28	...	Prov. M.O.
Howell Davies, W.M.	...	Prov. S.O.
Major Prust,	...	Prov. J.O.
J. Marsden,	...	Prov. G.C.
N. D. Marks, P.M. 28	...	Prov. G. Sec.

The other offices were distributed amongst the following brethren: Bro. A. P. Fabian, T. G. Glass, W. Whittington, William Rowe, Frederick P. Atkins, J. R. Ingram, and Aaron Jenkins. The brethren unanimously resolved to recommend to the Grand Mark Master of England Bro. Sir Pryce Pryce, Bart., for appointment as Grand Mark Master of this province.

The ordinary business having been transacted, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, and a banquet was afterwards held at the Royal Hotel, where a very pleasant and profitable evening was spent under the presidency of the acting Provincial Grand Master.

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL FREEMASONIC CONFERENCE.

The Leipzig *Latonia* for April 2nd (the new German Freemasonic journal, edited by Bro. B. Cramer), under the heading "Aus Italien," confirms the report that steps are being actively taken for the calling together of an International Freemasonic Re-union, at Rome, to include delegates from the Grand Lodges of every land. It is now proposed to hold a preliminary conference of brethren favourable to such a re-union during the coming National Italian Exhibition, about to be opened at Milan. The *Revista Masonica*, of Rome (the official journal of the "Grande Oriente della Massoneria in Italia"), proposes that this International Masonic Re-union shall exclude absolutely all discussions of, and connected with, Masonic ritualism, and shall confine itself to the elucidation of problems affecting the general welfare of our Order, and to the advancement of the international interests of the great Freemasonic Family.

This projected re-union (continues the *Latonia*) is certainly a great undertaking, but presents almost incalculable difficulties. Should it, however, prove possible to secure the support of the principal Masonic centres of the world, such an all-world Masonic re-union might (thinks the *Latonia*) potentially tend to restore that harmony between certain Masonic centres, which discordant elements of a religious and political nature have, unfortunately, disturbed.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT JARROW.

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall now being erected at the corner of Ellison-street and Grange-road, by the brethren of St. Bede Lodge of Freemasons, took place on Thursday afternoon, the 21st inst., the honourable task being entrusted to Bro. George Spain, agent to Lady James. Great preparations were made by the brethren for the important and picturesque ceremony, and it is pleasing to be able to state that their arrangements were as perfect as human ingenuity could make them. A large platform, seated with chairs and carpeted, with a separate entrance in Ellison-street, was erected in full view of the stone for the convenience of ladies, and provision was made on the Grange-road side of the building for the entrance of the brethren and friends. The weather up to within an hour of the ceremony was cold and dull, but about three o'clock the clouds dispersed, and the sun shone out with a little of spring brilliancy. The brethren met in the lodge-room, Mechanics' Institute, and after the lodge had been duly opened and closed, the brethren met in Ellison-street in front of the Mechanics' Hall, in full regalia. There was a dense crowd of spectators in the vicinity, and along the route taken by the procession, but there was no confusion, the approaches to the building being kept by constables under the command of Bro. Supt. Harrison. The attendance of brethren was very large, there being those from all parts of the province. The ladies' platform was comfortably filled by the wives, daughters, and friends of the brethren, presenting a charming gathering. Amongst the visiting brethren were Bro. W. H. Crookes, P.G. Sec.; R. Hudson, P.G.D. of C.; G. Greenwell, P.G.A.D. of C.; W. Liddell, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Ponder, P.M.; T. Renton, P.M.; W. H. Dickinson, P.M.; J. F. Dickinson, P.P.G.S.B.; George Lawson, Lawson, P.P.G.S.B.; J. T. Wilson, W.M. 230; George Spain, S.W. 605; John Wood, I.P.M. 48; G. C. Watson, W.M. 97; W. Frampton, P.M. 94; W. Gladstone, P.M. 991; J. McCulloch, P.M. 1643; A. I. Munroe, W.M. 240; J. H. Morton, I.P.M. 240; James Mitchell, I.P.M. 1643; W. Eckford, W.M. 1643; T. M. Watson, P.M. 97; O. W. Duffell, Mayor of Jarrow; and J. Thompson, P.G. Tyler.

After leaving the lodge room, the brethren assembled in front of the Mechanics' Institute in the following order: Tyler, with sword; brethren not members of the province, two and two; brethren of lodges in the province, according to seniority, juniors walking first; Bro. Rouledge (Junior E.A.), bearing rough ashlar; brethren of St. Bede Lodge, two and two; Bro. J. H. Morton (architect), with plans; Bro. J. A. Witter, bearing cornucopia with corn; Bro. J. Ponder, bearing ewer with wine; Bro. T. Renton, bearing ewer with oil; Bro. J. Gray (Inner Guard), with mallet and trowel; Bro. R. Hudson (Sunderland), Director of Ceremonies; Bro. J. Hickman and

E. Tillar, Junior and Senior Deacons; Bro. J. Sedcole (Secretary), with Constitution on cushion, and plate with inscription; Bro. J. Petree (Treasurer), with phial and coins; Bro. Lawson, with Corinthian light; Bro. H. Golder (Junior Warden), with the plumb rule; Bro. W. H. Dickinson, with Doric light; Bro. A. McDougal (Senior Warden), with level; Bro. D. Cameron, bearing perfect ashlar; Rev. W. Hedley (Chaplain), bearing Sacred Law on cushion; Bro. J. T. Dickinson, with Ionic light; Bro. J. Horner (Tyler), with sword; Worshipful Master, Bro. M. H. Dodd, and Bro. Geo. Spain, supported by the Stewards, Bros. J. Armstrong and H. Parker. Then followed the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past, in provincial clothing, according to rank. The brethren were all in full regalia. Having formed, the procession moved forward, headed by the splendid band of the 1st Newcastle and Durham Engineers (under the leadership of Bandmaster McDougall, and marched into Ormonde-street; along that street to the Market-square, which they crossed into Grange-road, and from thence to the building at the corner of Grange-road and Ellison-street. On arriving here the brethren passed within the hoardings two and two between the Tylers with drawn swords, and formed in two lines in order to allow Bro. Spain and the Worshipful Master to pass up the centre, and then the brethren followed in succession, thus inverting the order of procession. The ceremony then begun. After the singing of an ode, the Worshipful Master presented Bro. Spain with the trowel, and the stones having been adjusted, prayer was offered up by the Chaplain, Bro. W. Hedley, vicar of Hebburn. The Secretary, Bro. J. Sedcole, having read the inscription on the brass plate setting forth the character of the building, date of ceremony, &c., the Treasurer, Bro. Petree, deposited the phial containing copies of the local papers, the *Freemason*, coins of the realm, &c., in the cavity; and the Secretary having laid the plate on the lower stone, cement was spread, and the upper stone was let down to solemn music. Bro. Spain then proved the stone properly adjusted by plumb rule, level, and square, and said: "In the name of the Great Architect of the Universe I declare this stone well and truly laid." Corn was then scattered, and wine and oil poured over the stone by Bros. J. A. Witter, J. Ponder, and J. Renton. The Chaplain having again offered up a prayer, another ode was sung, and Bro. Spain publicly declared his approval of the plans, which he handed over to Bro. J. H. Morton.

Bro. G. SPAIN said: W.M. and brethren, the observations which I am permitted to offer on this occasion must be brief and few in number. I am sure I shall correctly express the feeling of all here when I say that we much regret the unavoidable absence of the R.W. the P.G.M. and of the V.W. the D.P.G.M., whose presence here to-day would have given satisfaction to us all. I have been desired by Bro. W. H. James, the member for Gateshead, to express his regret that, being away in Italy at the time, he was unable to respond to the kind invitation of the W.M. and brethren of the St. Bede Lodge. Under these circumstances the W.M. and brethren of St. Bede Lodge invited me to occupy the post which I now have the honour to fill; my first impulse was to refuse, feeling that a more worthy selection should be made, but owing to the kindness of the W.M. and brethren, you now see me here performing my duties as an operative Mason, and I now beg to thank you for the honour you have conferred upon me in asking me to lay this foundation stone. May the superstructure which will be raised thereon be perfect in all its parts, and honourable to the builders, not only in a material and physical sense, but also in a moral and speculative point of view. The preparation of the plans has been entrusted to a skilful brother—the name of Bro. J. H. Morton as that of the architect will, I am sure, be a sufficient guarantee that the material part of the work will be well done—and that when completed the building will be an ornament to the town, and well adapted for the mysteries and ceremonies which will hereafter be performed within the walls. Bro. Morton, I return you these plans, which are highly approved, and by the command of the W.M. desire that you will proceed with all diligence and dispatch in the execution of the work. Brethren, upon an occasion like the present we may, I think, be fairly excused and pardoned for taking advantage of the opportunity to congratulate ourselves upon the high position now occupied by Freemasonry. Notwithstanding its great antiquity and the attacks to which it has at various times been subjected, we Masons still remain firm and true to those beautiful principles, to those customs, traditions, and ceremonies, which have been handed down to us by our Grand Master, King Solomon; and thus while people and nations have passed away our ancient and honourable Institution remains with us strong and vigorous. The progress of Freemasonry in recent years has been quite remarkable. I believe I am correct in stating that since the consecration of the St. Bede Lodge, in 1866, fourteen or fifteen new lodges have been added to the roll in these two northern provinces of Durham and Westmorland alone. But, although new lodges are constantly being formed, the erection of the material edifice set apart for, and dedicated to, Freemasonry is not an every-day occurrence. W.M. and brethren of the St. Bede Lodge, by this act you plainly stamp the impress of Masonry upon the inhabitants of this town, and exhibit the beauty and strength of Masonry to be handed down to brethren of a generation yet to come; by this act of devotion and self-sacrifice you place an additional mark in the country, showing how thoroughly identified Masonry is with the hearts and affections of the brethren. May the Great Architect of the Universe preserve you; may peace dwell within this new temple; and may the brethren, now or hereafter discharging their respective duties within its walls, be for ever united and cemented in the practice of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

Bro. DODD, W.M., then made a few remarks, thanking the visiting brethren for their presence.

Immediately after the conclusion of the ceremony, the brethren formed again in two lines, facing inwards, leaving the stone, officers, and ladies' platform exposed to view, and a photograph of the scene was taken. Three hearty cheers were given for the ladies, and the procession reformed, and headed by the band as before, the brethren returned to the Mechanics' Institute.

The site is in every way an eligible one, having a frontage of fifty-two feet, and so situated that the hall will be placed due east and west, the advantage of which must be obvious to all of the initiated. The style of architecture adopted is that known as the "Queen Anne," and the elevation will be a very picturesque one, the material used being bricks of a deep red colour, relieved by stone dressings. The roof will be covered with red tiles

and the sky-line will be broken up by gables and parapets. The ground floor consists of two spacious and handsome shops, each 23ft. by 20ft. 6in. by 12ft. high, that on the west having a show-room behind 17ft. by 14ft. There are also convenient yards in the rear. In the centre of the site is the main entrance to the Masonic portion of the edifice, consisting of entrance hall and vestibule eight feet wide, the floors of which will be of black and white Mosaic pavement and the walls will be relieved by Ionic columns. At the rear of the entrance hall easy stairs, 5 feet wide, will lead up to the lodge-room above the shops. The first or principal floor is arranged with ante or robing room, 14 feet 6 inches square, with an inner preparation room, 14 feet 6 inches by 8 feet, for the use of candidates; separate doorways from each communicate with the Masonic Hall. The hall will be 35 feet by 23 feet by 13 feet high, the walls of which will be relieved by Ionic columns and panelling. The dais and fireplace will be designed as special features adding greatly to the general ornamentation. The windows will all have double sashes to deaden any sound arising from the street traffic. Continuing up the staircase, we arrive at a well fitted lavatory, containing all the necessary conveniences. From the stair landing, wide folding doors will give access to the banquetting hall, which will be similar in size to the lodge beneath. Adjoining is the kitchen, 18 feet by 11 feet, with convenient store closets and other fittings. The architect is Bro. J. H. Morton, South Shields; contractor, Mr. John Munroe, Hebburn; clerk of works, Bro. E. F. Prentice, Jarrow.

The inscription upon the brass plate reads as follows: "Foundation-stone, New Masonic Hall of St. Bede Lodge, No. 119, laid by George Spain, 21st April, 1881. Trustees: Bros. W. H. Dickinson, P.M.; J. T. Dickinson, P.M.; Thomas Renton, P.M.; R. E. Huntley, John Price, John Armstrong, Jas. Armstrong, J. H. Dale, H. Golder, T. S. Salter, Thomas Kirk, J. W. Ithuralde, M. H. Dodd, W.M. The cost of the building when complete will be about £1230.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to Bro. E. Forster's, where an excellent repast had been prepared, and to which ample justice was done by about eighty of the Craft. Bro. Forster is noted for good "spreads," and on this occasion surpassed himself. Bro. Dodd, W.M., occupied the chair, and Bro. McDougal, S.W., the vice-chair, each being supported by prominent brethren of the Order.

After the cloth had been drawn, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, including "The Queen;" "Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, and the Grand Lodge Officers;" "The Most Noble the Marquis of Londonderry, K.P., and Officers of the Province of Durham;" "Earl Percy and Officers of the Province of Northumberland;" each being responded to by provincial officers present.

Bro. W. H. DICKINSON, in glowing terms, proposed "The Health of Bro. Spain," who suitably responded, and said he should be happy to become a member of the St. Bede Lodge.

Bro. O. H. DUFFELL gave "The Trustees of the New Building," and Bro. J. T. DICKINSON and RENTON replied.

The W.M. gave "The Visiting Brethren," to which Bro. WATSON, ELLISTON, and DAVIES replied.

Bro. CROOKES proposed "The W.M. and Officers of St. Bede Lodge."

Bros. DODD, McDUGAL, GOLDER, and SEDCOLE replied.

The W.M. gave "The Past Masters of St. Bede Lodge."

Bros. RENTON, J. T. DICKINSON, and W. H. DICKINSON replied.

Bro. J. T. DICKINSON gave "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," to which Bro. McDUGAL responded.

Bro. DODD, W.M., gave "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. GRAY gave "The Ladies," to which Bro. BARRAS-FORD replied.

Bro. R. ARMSTRONG gave "The Press," and the proceedings closed with the Tyler's toast.

During the evening several brethren gave songs and recitations, and a most enjoyable entertainment was the result.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

MOUNT CALVARY CHAPTER (No. 3).—

The members of this old and distinguished chapter assembled in force at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on the 8th inst. Among those in attendance were Bro. D. Nicols, M.W.S.; Dr. Ace, D.D., H.P.; F. Curlin, 1st General; Alfred Williams, G.M.; T. C. Walls, Raphael; W. Paas, Treas.; D. M. Dewar, Recorder; F. W. Driver, Captain of Guards; C. W. Tayleur, Org.; T. W. Coffin, P.M.W.S.; R. Stewart, P.M.W.S.; W. Roebuck, P.M.W.S.; E. J. Gardiner, J. E. Anderson, W. B. Kidder, G. Pigache, F. J. Stohwasser, T. W. Adams, and H. J. Lardner. Bro. E. M. Lott, Orpheus Chapter, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the election of M.W.S. resulted in favour of Bro. Dr. Ace, D.D. Bro. Paas was re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Walls having given a notice of motion to consider the services of the Past Sovereigns, and what form the recognition should take, Bro. Lott was proposed as a joining member, and Bro. A. F. Aldridge for perfection at the next meeting. Bro. Stohwasser then presented to the chapter a very handsomely-carved alms plate in memoriam of his father, who was at the time of his death one of the oldest members and Past Sovereigns of the Mount Calvary Chapter. The presentation having been duly acknowledged by the M.W.S., the chapter was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Café Royal, where a most excellent banquet awaited them.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the preliminary toasts received full justice. "The Health of the M.W.S." was proposed in very flattering terms by the I.P.M.W. Bro. Nicols having replied, then gave "The Visitor." Bro. Lott having duly acknowledged the compliment, "The Past Most W. Sovereigns" followed, coupled with the name of Bro. Coffin, who made a modest speech in response. "The Health of the Treasurer and Recorder" came next in order, and this toast having been enthusiastically received, Bros. Paas and Dewar replied. "The Officers," coupled with the name of Bro. Curlin, terminated the proceedings.

Council was held two hours previously, Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., presiding. The amended rules were put, discussed seriatim, and all the letters received on the subject read and considered, and such alterations made as were deemed advisable; those rules were then ordered to be printed and promulgated as the rules of the Order from henceforth, superseding the original ones, which had become obsolete from the extension of the Order to the provinces. Forms for four parchment and vellum warrants, patents, and certificates, were presented by the Secretary-General, Frater Poek, and duly approved of.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of Subscribers to this Institution met on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Col. Creaton, G. Treasurer, in the chair. There were also present Bros. J. M. Case, E. H. Finney, Thomas Massa, H. A. Dubois, W. Bailey, Joshua Nunn, Frank Richardson, James Peters, Peter de Lande Long, E. Letchworth, E. C. Mather, C. Hammerton, F. R. W. Hedges (Secretary), and H. Massey (Freemason).

After the minutes had been read, Bros. Massa, F. Richardson, J. M. Case, and A. J. Duff Filer gave in nominations for the House and Audit Committee to be elected next meeting. The Secretary was directed to write to the Scrutineers of Votes at last election to ask them to serve in the same capacity at the election next month.

The visit of the Stewards of the forthcoming festival of the Institution was announced to take place on the 17th prox., when they will meet Sir Michael Hicks Beach, M.P., the Chairman of the festival of the Institution.

Petitions for placing children on the list of candidates were then examined, and candidates placed on the list. The Committee then adjourned.

Obituary.

BRO. CHARLES VENABLES.

On Good Friday one of the best of friends and Masons died—Bro. Charles Venables, of the Paper Works, Taplow, P.M. of the Enoch Lodge, No. 11, Grand Organist of Berks and Bucks, &c. He died at home peacefully, after a very short illness, anxiously watched and tended by his devoted wife, under the glorious woods of Cliveden, by our charming-old river Thames, that we all love so well—the scene of his early associations and after years of happiness.

On the following Thursday he was taken to his last resting place, by the side of his little daughter, in Cookham Churchyard, and there his many friends and many of his brother Masons heard sung by some of those who loved him the following beautiful verses:—

- Now the labourer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.
There the tears of earth are dried;
There its hidden things are clear;
There the work of life is tried
By a juster Judge than here.
Father, in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.
There no more the powers of Hell
Can prevail to mar thy peace;
Christ the Lord shall guard them well,
He who died for their release.
Father, in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.
"Earth to earth, and dust to dust,"
Calmly now the words we say,
Leaving him to sleep in trust
Till the Resurrection Day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping."

Many a brother Mason will long remember his manly bearing, kindness of heart, and love of music, and will feel assured that T.G.A.O.T.U. has taken him home thus suddenly in His wisdom for His own good purposes, to join that Grand Lodge above where honour, peace, and glory live for ever.

General Tidings.

The General Post Office is about to be lighted by electricity.

A special Court of Governors of the Scottish Corporation was held on Wednesday last at the hall of the Corporation, Fleet-street, for the election of, at least, thirteen pensioners to £12 per annum, from a list of forty candidates whose ages vary from sixty-eight to eighty-seven years.

The Messrs. Gatti, having acquired the freehold of the Adelphi Theatre, intend converting the premises above the theatre into a handsome smoking saloon for their patrons.

Mr. H. Kains-Jackson, reporting on the crop prospects, says the farm lands of the country must now be worth ten millions sterling more than they were two years ago. As regards the growing crops, they are all very backward, and the wheat plant is not regular in colour, but it is generally well rooted and is tillering satisfactorily. Upon the whole, better crops are expected this year in the South of England than have been had for several years.

The announcement of Her Majesty's intention to hold a review of Volunteers in Windsor Great Park in May is incorrect. The Review, it is understood, will not take place in that month at all. The Queen usually leaves Windsor about the 21st of May for Scotland, and returns to the South about the 18th of June. The Royal Review, under these circumstances, may, therefore, be expected to occur at the end of June on Her Majesty's return from Balmoral, and prior to her summer visit to Osborne.

Masonic Tidings.

Bro. H. G. Barwell, the Provincial Grand Secretary of Norfolk, has been active in collecting sums from the Norwich lodges for the benefit of the Norwich Jenny Lind Infirmary and Lying-in Charity. The Honorary Secretaries of those Institutions acknowledge the receipt, per Bro. Barwell, from Union Lodge, No. 52, £10 10s.; Social Lodge, No. 93, £5; Walpole Lodge, No. 1500, £5; Royal George Chapter, £4 4s., to be equally divided between those Charities. An anonymous brother also forwards £10 10s. for a similar purpose. We may add that Bro. Barwell takes an active part in the Masonic Charities as well as those of a local nature.

At the last meeting of the Williamson Lodge, No. 949, Bro. Alex. T. Munroe, W.M., in the chair, held at Monkwearmouth, Sunderland, Bro. G. Porteous, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

Bro. Thomas Evans was yesterday (Friday) installed W.M. of the Ancient Briton Lodge, No. 1675, for the second time, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. A report of the meeting will appear in our next issue.

We are pleased to note that at Smyrna, on the news of the catastrophe in Scio, the Masons were the first to move. They formed a Committee of Masons of all nations, led by Bro. Captain Stab, P. District Grand Warden, Bro. Mill, and others of our jurisdiction. Bro. Mill was despatched to the island, and at once opened a soup kitchen, in the working of which he was assisted by brethren there. Fifty thousand rations of soup were distributed in four days among the sufferers by the earthquake, without distinction of creed or race.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF DUNEDIN MASONIC HALL.—About two o'clock on Sunday morning, the 13th February, the old hall—that source of trouble and annoyance to members of Dunedin lodges—became a thing of the past, and it was, indeed, fortunate that the flames which consumed the eyesore did not take a firm hold of more valuable premises. The newly-erected coffee palace immediately in front and adjoining the old hall was much damaged, and the bakery machinery and stock, belonging to Mr. Hudson, the proprietor of the Masonic Hall, who carried on his business immediately under the meeting place of our brethren, was entirely destroyed. The whole of the property of the different lodges, with trifling exceptions, including the expensive regalia of the District Grand Lodges, was consumed, and the loss is estimated to be over £1000 for Masonic property alone, which is only partially covered, as follows: Lodge of Dunedin, organ, £60 (Victoria); Otago Kilwinning Lodge, £100 (National); Celtic Lodge, £125 (National). The damage to the coffee palace is said to be more than covered by insurance, while the old Masonic Hall building is reported to have been insured for £2000, and Mr. Hudson's plant and stock for £3000. It is a great pity that the whole of the lodges did not insure their property; but those who did not take the necessary precautions looked forward, no doubt, to very soon getting out of the "old oven" where they had so repeatedly undergone the steaming process.—New Zealand Freemason.

By the last mail the patent for the appointment by the M.W.G.M.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom of Bro. Thos. Sherlock Graham as P.G.M.M. reached Dunedin, and that respected brother's installation will, probably, take place at an early date.—New Zealand Freemason.

The handsome service of plate given by the brethren of the Province of Middlesex to their Grand Master, Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., was on view at the Exhibition at Richmond, and was much admired.

Bro. Lord Waveney, P.G.M. Suffolk, has addressed a lengthy letter to the Secretary of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture on the subject of agricultural depression.

The Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge will be consecrated in the Lecture Hall, Penny-street, Portsmouth, on Wednesday next, the 1st prox., by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., when H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.W., is expected to be present. The W.M. elect is Lord Chas. Beresford, Past G.W. Devon. H.R.H. Prince Edward will be the first initiate.

LANGTON LODGE, No. 1673.—A report of the installation meeting of this lodge will appear in our next.

The Audley Lodge, No. 1896, was consecrated on Tuesday last by the R.W. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P. The ceremony was performed in the Town Hall, Newport, Salop.

Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., presided at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales and Salop at the Town Hall, Newport, Salop, on Tuesday, a large number of brethren being present.

The Fifteen Sections were worked in the La Tolerance Lodge of Instruction, No. 538, on Wednesday week, held at the Green Dragon, Maddox-street. Bros. J. Hurdell, S.D. 1348, W.M.; W.H. Richardson, S.W. 1348, S.W.; J. Paul, 1287, J.W. The Sections were worked as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Section number, Name, and Lodge number. Includes sections for First, Second, and Third Lectures.

A very pleasant evening was spent, everything going off in a most creditable manner.

We beg to call attention to the letter of a "Steward" for the Girls' School Festival elsewhere.

On Friday night, the 22nd inst., a conversazione took place in the Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, Sunderland, under the auspices of the Masonic Club, when there was a large gathering of ladies and friends of the members, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Fowler, M.P., and Bro. Sheriff Waterlow attended the opening of a bazaar for the purchase of the old chapel at Ponder's-end. Promenade concerts were held, lending an additional interest to the representation of an early English market-place, specially planned and artistically carried out. The bazaar was held in the Lecture Hall, Chase Side, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, from two till nine o'clock.

Bro. E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., delivered a lecture at Plymouth on Friday night, the 22nd inst., on "India." Having sketched the history of the Empire, he dealt with the hold England had upon it, remarking that the problem of the government of the vast territory was one of the most difficult this great nation had to solve.

The Chicago "Voice of Masonry" has now published "Æ, a Mark Mason's Story," by Bro. Emma Holmes. "The Keystone," Philadelphia; "The Protestant Episcopal Church News," Baltimore; "Ottawa Daily Citizen," "Toronto Mail," and "Canadian Craftsman," are also publishing Mr. Holmes's fugitive pieces.

A lodge of instruction in connection with the Wanderers' Lodge, No. 1604, will be opened at the Black Horse, York-street, S.W., on Wednesday next, the 4th May, at 7.30 p.m.

Bro. S. C. Hall announces the publication, through Messrs. Griffith and Farran, of a series of 220 short poems, entitled "Rhymes in Council: Aphorisms Versified." They are written in his eighty-first year, and he bequeaths them as a legacy to his kind; the result of knowledge based on experience and matured by thought, "the proceeds of a long life."

Bro. T. Beard presided at the dinner of the Coal and Corn and Finance Committee at the Guildhall Tavern on Tuesday evening last.

Bro. Boord and Bro. Baron H. de Worms, the members for the borough of Greenwich, addressed their constituents in the New Cross Public Hall on Friday week. Mr. R. Walbutton presided.

The funeral of Bro. W. A. Alexander Blackmore, P.M. of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862, will take place to-day (Saturday), at Highgate Cemetery, at two o'clock.

Bro. Sir John Bennett delivered a lecture on "The Watch: Its History, Mechanism, and Mode of Manufacture," in the Village Hall, Chislehurst, on Wednesday evening.

Bro. Horace Jones and Mr. G. E. Street are candidates for the presidency of the Royal Institution of British Architects. It is thought the contest will be severe.

The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been pleased to grant a warrant for a new lodge to be called the Montague Guest Lodge, No. 1900, to be held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's-Inn-fields, the R.W. P.G.M. for Dorsetshire and P.G.D., Bro. Montague J. Guest, M.P., being one of the founders. Bro. W. H. Dean, P.M. 417 and P.P.G.S.B. Dorset, is the W.M. designate.

Bro. the Earl of Lathom will preside at the next meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, on the 11th proximo.

The annual meeting of the proprietors of the London Institution, Finsbury-circus, took place on Wednesday. The report presented stated that the income of the institution, which before 1874 was under £3000, is now considerably above £4000. The total number of volumes circulated in the year has been 58,493, against 45,000 in the previous year. During the past winter as many as 1677 volumes have been issued in a week, and as many as 410 in a day.

A new School of Art was opened in Manchester on Wednesday last by the Earl of Derby. The building has been erected at a cost of £25,000 of which £7000 remains unpaid, and Lord Derby promised to do his part in wiping of this debt if the people of the city would do theirs. In the evening Lord Derby delivered an address in which he dwelt on the development of art in this country during the last half century, and the beneficial influence it had in counteracting the gradual disappearance of the beauties of nature in our country, and our tendency towards excessive industrialism.

WESTBOURNE LODGE, No. 733.—A report of the last meeting of this lodge will appear in our next.

Bro. Captain Wm. W. Stephens, formerly of Plymouth, England, and for the past two years a resident of Winnipeg, Man., was called to his rest on Saturday, the 19th ult., and was buried with Masonic honours on the following day. The pall-bearers were R. W. Bro. G. F. Carruthers and Bros. H. Swinford, H. Duffield, H. G. White, J. Jackson, and W. Brydon. The burial services of the Church of England were read by the Rev. Canon Grisdale at St. John's Cathedral, and the Masonic ceremonies were performed by the M.W. the Grand Master, Bro. John H. Bell.

STOCKWELL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1339.—A good muster of the brethren of this lodge of instruction met on the 27th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Kennington-road. There were present Bros. W. P. Webb, W.M.; Foote, S.W.; Cockburn, J.W.; Frances, P.P. G.S.D., Preceptor; Pincott, S.D.; Stranger, J.D.; Cooper, Sec.; and Palmer, I.G. Bro. Frances worked the First and Second Sections of the First Lecture, and Bro. Webb, W.M., rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Richmond acting as candidate. Bro. Foote was elected W.M. for the next meeting, which will take place at the above house at 7.30 p.m. on every Thursday, instead of Wednesday. Bro. Williams, of the Samson Lodge, No. 1668, was elected a member of the lodge.

